

# TEER OF HYA PRADE

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MADHYA PRADESH DISTRICT GAZETTEERS



# GWALIOR



*By*  
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STATE EDITOR

सत्यमेव जयते

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## PREFACE

Sometime in 1955, Government of India initiated a scheme for the revision of district gazetteers in the different States, as also of the India Gazetteers. About half a century had elapsed since the district gazetteers were first written and during this long period, not only had there been far-reaching changes in the economic, social and cultural features of the districts but the statistical data had also become much out of date. In so far Madhya Pradesh was concerned several new districts had been carved out of the territories that composed the new State of Madhya Pradesh. It might, therefore, be said that in the case of several districts in Madhya Pradesh, the task was not so much a revision as of original writing of district gazetteers for the first time.

The scheme for the revision of district gazetteers was accepted early in 1958 by the Madhya Pradesh Government which set up a State Advisory Board under Government Notification Nos. 2821-I(IV), 3325-375-I(IV) and 5598-375-I(IV), dated the 26th April 1958, 21st May 1958, and 23rd August 1958. The function of the Board is to advise Government on all matters arising out of the revision of district gazetteers in the State. The following were appointed Members of the Board:—

- (1) Pandit D. P. Mishra.
- (2) Pandit Suryanarayan Vyas, Ujjain.
- (3) Dr. Raghbir Singh, Sitamau.
- (4) Shri G. R. Garde, Retired Revenue Secretary, M. B. Government, Gwalior.
- (5) Prof. W. D. West, Head of the Department of Geology, University of Saugar.
- (6) Dr. S. L. Katare, Officiating Director, Institute of Languages and Research, Jabalpur.
- (7) Dr. D. S. Shrivastava, Professor of Zoology, Saugar.
- (8) Dr. R. M. Sinha, Reader in History, Mahakoshal Mahavidyalaya, Jabalpur.
- (9) Shri B. K. Thaper, Superintendent, Archaeological Department, Bhopal.
- (10) Pandit Lochan Prasad Pande, Raigarh.



(ii)

- (11) Dr. M. G. Dikshit, Deputy Director of Archaeology.
- (12) The Director of Land Records, Madhya Pradesh.
- (13) The Director of Agriculture, Madhya Pradesh.
- (14) The Chief Conservator of Forests, Madhya Pradesh,
- (15) The Director of Statistics and Economics, Madhya Pradesh.
- (16) Dr. Muzaffar Ali, Professor of Geography, Saugar University, Sagar.
- (17) Prof. L. C. Dhariwal, Retired Professor of Economics, Holkar College, Indore.
- (18) Shri Harihar Niwas Dwivedi, Gwalior.
- (19) Dr. H. V. Trivedi, Retired Deputy Director of Archaeology, Madhya Pradesh.
- (20) Shri V. S. Krishnan, State Editor, District Gazetteers.
- (21) Dr. K. B. L. Bhargava, Officer on Special Duty.

2. Shri V. S. Krishnan, State Editor, was appointed the Convener of the Board.

It was not, however, till March 1958, that a nucleus staff for the District Gazetteer Unit was set up which took up the preliminary work of collecting and building up a reference library and compiling the basic information for the work of revision of district gazetteers. It was in December 1960, that the State Editor was placed on whole-time duty for the revision of district gazetteers and the drafting of the gazetteer of Gwalior district was taken up. As already mentioned, the only gazetteer available for this district was the old gazetteer of Gwalior State edited by Captain C. E. Luard published in 1907. This gazetteer however covered the entire territory of the Scindia rulers of Gwalior State and comprised the area now demarcated into several districts. We, therefore, faced the initial difficulty of not possessing an old gazetteer for Gwalior district which could be revised.

The task was, however, rendered possible owing to the valuable assistance we received from the different departments of Government, particularly the Directorate of Economics and Statistics, the offices of the Settlement Commissioner and Land Records and the valuable co-operation of all departments of Government. We should also like to express our grateful thanks to the Superintendent and his officers of the Archaeological Survey of India, Temple Survey Project, Bhopal, for the valuable help given by them, particularly for the permission to use some of their photographs. We are also grateful to the Director of Information and Publicity for allowing us the use of some of their photographs and material in the preparation of this gazetteer.



The draft of this gazetteer was sent to the Gazetteer Unit of the Government of India in two instalments, Part I consisting of nine Chapters on the 26th October 1961 and Part II consisting of the remaining Chapters on the 9th November 1961. At the same time the draft was sent to the members of the State Advisory Board who later met on the 4th December 1961, and approved of the draft. We received the comments of the Gazetteer Unit of the Government of India in February 1962, which were scrutinised by a sub-committee appointed by the State Advisory Board on the 16th May 1962. We are deeply grateful to the Gazetteer Unit of the Government of India for going through our draft and offering valuable comments on it in the light of which the Chapters were revised and suitably amended. The press copy of the Gwalior gazetteer was thus ready for printing on the 17th May 1962.

Since then there has unfortunately been a long gestation period before the gazetteer could actually appear in print. It would be ungracious to apportion the blame, if any, for this hold-up. Nevertheless, it is a matter of satisfaction that this first product of our efforts is now printed and published. I have no doubt that this would be the beginning of the several subsequent district gazetteers that are at different stages of finalization.

In the preparation of the material on which this district gazetteer was written, the State Editor is grateful for the assistance rendered by Dr. K. B. L. Bhargava, Officer on Special Duty, Shri L. C. Goswami, Shri Shukdeo Dube and Shri Shambhu Dayal Guru, Editors, and Sarva Shri M. L. Tiwari, R. K. Lal, M. M. Muley, Vishnu Saran, P. K. Bhatnagar, K. A. S. Bais, M. P. Dubey and R. K. Shrivastava, Compilers. In the preparation of the maps, Shri M. P. Dubey and Shri Yaduraj Singh took considerable pains and their work was supervised by Prof. S. M. Ali of Saugar University to whom we owe a special word of thanks. Shri T. S. Sarma, Compiler, who prepared the index and Shri K. R. R. C. Nair, Compiler, who supervised the printing, deserve a word of commendation and thanks.

V. S. KRISHNAN,

BHOPAL:

*State Editor.*

*The 6th February 1965.*



## CHAPTER I

### GENERAL

The Gwalior district, which is in the Gwalior revenue division, lies in the northern part of the State between latitude  $25^{\circ} 34' N$  and  $26^{\circ} 21' N$  and longitude  $77^{\circ} 40' E$  and  $78^{\circ} 54' E$ . It covers an area of 2,002 square miles<sup>1</sup> which is a little more than 1.1 per cent of the total area of the State. The district has a population of 6,57,876 according to the Census of 1961, distributed almost equally between the rural and urban areas. One special physical feature of the district is a perennial river, and the rivers Nun and Chachond, flow towards the Pichhore forming the larger block and the Bhandar tahsil forming a smaller block—with three small enclaves of Senthri, Asuli and Sethanapali lying between them. The Gwalior and Pichhore tahsils are bounded on the north and north-west by Morena district, on the north-east by Bhind district, on the east by Datia district and on the south by the district of Shivpuri. The detached part of the district comprising the Bhandar tahsil is bounded on the north by Bhind district, on the south and east by the district of Jhansi in Uttar Pradesh, and on the west by Datia district.

The district derives its name from the historic rock-fortress built on an isolated flat-topped hill, which forms a commanding land-mark in the area. Diverse traditions exist regarding the origin of the name of the district which is variously referred to in epigraphical records as *Gopa Parvat*, *Gopachal Durg*, *Gopagiri* or *Gopadri*, meaning the cow-herds' hill. Cunningham gives the following account of the tradition regarding the building of this fort:—

"The hill on which the fortress is built was originally called *Gopachala* and *Gopagiri*, or the hill of *Gopa*, or the 'Cow-herd', and, under this name, it is mentioned in Pasupati's inscription as *Gopahvaya*, and not *Sarpahvaya*, as read by Babu Rajendra. Both Fazl Ali and Hiranman call the hill *Gomanta*, which is also the name of a hill mentioned in the Puranas, but my anonymous MS. applies the name of *Gopachala* to the whole range, and calls the fort hill *Malgand*. This name recalls Ferishta's account that Gwalior was founded by Malchand of Malwa. But as Ferishta does not give his authority for this statement, I prefer the united testimony of the annalists that Gwalior was founded by a Kachhwaha Chief, named Suraj Sen, the petty Raja of Kuntalpur, or Kutwar. Suraj Sen was a leper, and one day when thirsty with hunting near the hill of Gopagiri, he came to the cave of the Siddh Gwalipa, and asked for water. The hermit gave him some water in his own vessel, and no sooner had he drunk it than he was cured of his leprosy. The grateful Raja then asked what he could do for the holy man, and he was directed to build a fort on the hill, and to enlarge the tank from which the healing water had been drawn.

1. This is the area estimated by the Surveyor-General of India (quoted in "India 1961" p. 431). This represents the planimetric area and is provisional. According to 1951 Census the total area on a tahsil-wise measurement is 1990 square miles.



Suraj Sen accordingly built the fortress, which he named after the hermit *Gwali-awar*, or *Gwalior*, as it is now written. He also enlarged the tank, and called it *Suraj Kund*, after his own name. Then the holy man gave him the new name of Suhan Pal, and promised that 84 of his descendants should reign after him, or so long, says Fazl Ali, as they should retain the name of Pal. Accordingly, 83 of his descendants are recorded as Rajas of Gwalior with the name of Pal, and the 84th, named Tej Karan, lost his kingdom because he did not bear the charmed name."<sup>1</sup>

In some records the district and the tahsil of Gwalior are also referred to as *Gird*, perhaps derived from the Urdu word *Gird* (vicinity) meaning 'the surrounding area in the vicinity of the capital'.

Gwalior district consists of three tahsils *viz.*, Gwalior (*Gird*), Pichhore and Bhandar. As mentioned earlier, Bhandar tahsil is separated from the rest of the district by a portion of the adjoining Datia district which forms a wedge between the two blocks of Gwalior district. Of the remaining two tahsils, Pichhore tahsil occupies the south-eastern part of the district while the crescent shaped tahsil of Gwalior encloses it on the north, north-west and west.

The table below indicates the changes in the area and population of the district during the last 50 years :—

Year	Area in square miles	Population (Persons) in the then district	Population adjusted to the district boundary in 1951 and according to 1951 Census	Density of population per square mile
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1901 .. ..	1,370.25	3,00,111	3,93,738	218
1911 .. ..	1,712.92	3,12,675	3,21,025	185
1921 .. ..	1,712.00	3,26,466	3,34,139	192
1931 .. ..	1,712.00	3,64,806	3,72,303	216
1941 .. ..	1,875.00	4,93,232	4,49,919	263
1951 .. ..	1,990.00	5,30,299	5,30,299	266

Since 1810 when Maharaja Daulat Rao Sindhia selected it as the site for his army camp (*Lashkar*), Gwalior has been the seat of the Sindhias. Gwalior State was organised into modern administrative units for the first time by Sir Dinkar Rao (1852—59) who divided it into *prants* (divisions), *zilas* (districts) and *parganas* (tahsils). Under this arrangement, the State consisted of three *prants* (Gwalior, Isagarh and Malwa), 19 districts and 62 tahsils until 1903-04.

1. Cunningham, Archaeological Survey Report, Vol. II, pp. 374-75.



In this year the State was reorganised into a single *prant* with 13 districts and 45 tahsils. By the time the Census of 1911 was held, the number of the districts and tahsils had been further reduced to 11 and 39 respectively. This position continued until the State merged in Madhya Bharat in 1948.

In 1895-96 Gird district, as Gwalior district was then called, comprised four tahsils *viz.*, Gird, Nurabad, Antri and Pichhore. In 1899 Nurabad tahsil was excluded from the district and Aron tahsil of Narwar district was included in it. As a result of the reorganisation of administrative units during 1903-04 Bhitwar tahsil of Narwar district was merged in the Aron tahsil of Gird district and the reconstituted tahsil was known as Mastura tahsil with its headquarters at Aron. In 1937 the tahsil headquarters were transferred from Aron to Ghatigaon by which name the tahsil was known since. Antri tahsil was also abolished in the reorganisation of 1903 although the *Pargana adalat* continued to be there even after 1904.

In this year Daboh tahsil of Bhandar District was abolished and its 54 villages were transferred to Bhandar tahsil, which thus had a total of 136 villages. This position continues till now. The actual addition of Bhandar tahsil to Gird district perhaps took place in 1910-11, because between the period of 1905-06 to 1909-10, it is shown in the old maps as a part of Bhind district. Gwalior district continued to have four tahsils *viz.*, Gird, Mastura, Pichhore and Bhandar till 1937 when Bhandar was again made a part of Bhind district and Gohad was incorporated in Gird district. In the same year the name of Mastura tahsil was changed to Ghatigaon. In 1944-45, however, Bhandar tahsil was re-transferred to Gird district and Gohad tahsil was again included in Bhind district. Thus at the time State was merged into the Union of Madhya Bharat, Gird district comprised four tahsils *viz.*, Gird, Pichhore, Ghatigaon and Bhandar. The area and population of these tahsils as enumerated in 1951 were as follows:—

Tahsil				Area in square miles	Population
(1)				(2)	(3)
Bhandar	..	..	..	252	51,964
Gird	..	..	..	518	3,05,657
Ghatigaon	..	..	..	600	59,659
Pichhore	..	..	..	620	1,13,019
District	..	..	..	1,990	5,30,299

Ghatigaon tahsil, however, had two natural divisions—the western plateau region and the eastern valley region—which were so different in their nature that they caused some administrative difficulties. Therefore, on the 1st April 1954, Ghatigaon tahsil was abolished by merging the valley region with Pichhore tahsil and the plateau region with Gwalior (Gird) tahsil. The present district



of Gwalior thus has three tahsils, Gwalior, Pichhore and Bhandar, as shown below :—

Tahsil	Area in Square miles	Population
(1)	(2)	(3)
Bhandar .. .. .	252.66	51,964
Gird .. .. .	1,038.66	3,42,250
Pichhore .. .. .	723.80	1,36,085
District .. .. .	2,015.12	5,30,299

**Thanas.**—There are twenty police stations in the district. They are located at Lashkar, Madhoganj, Janakganj, Morar, Gwalior, Indraganj, Panniar, Ghatigaon, Bhitwarwar, Pichhore, Dabra, Antri, Bhandar, Behat, Pandokhar, Maharajpura, Gijora, Tigra, Karaiya and Bijoli. The first six of these are in the city of Greater Gwalior.

### TOPOGRAPHY

The district lies at a junction of the Malwa plateau in the south-west and the vast Gangetic plain in the north and east. Topographically it falls into four divisions: the plateau division in the west, the central hilly tract, the south-eastern plain and the north-eastern plain.

The plateau division is the northern most extension of the Malwa plateau. It rises about a thousand feet above the mean sea level in the district. Its highest points are Tor hill (1,454 ft.) in the Sirkoli Reserved forest and Din hill (1,420 ft.) in the Renhat Reserved forest. Nearly the whole of the western plateau division is covered with forests. Cultivated areas are along the river-valleys where deep soil is available. The eastern and western margins of the plateau rise higher than the middle region of the plateau so that the waters of this region tend to flow along the middle. A third line of residual hillocks extends closely along the upper streams of river Sank from Renhat to Tilawali, a village to the south of Dundapura Reserved forest. In the northern part, the plateau is more dissected where river Sank has been dammed at Tigra and the Gwalior hill-fort stands further east of it.

The central hilly tract is a prolongation of the western plateau extending upto the eastern boundary of the district. Its width does not exceed 16 miles anywhere. The general height of the central hilly tract is about 800 ft. above M.S.L., the hills rising 1,000 ft. above M.S.L., being those of Kalipahar and Antri. Nearly the whole of this range is covered with forests and the Government Reserved forests of Santau, Antri, Singhpur, Deogarh and Sonsa are all along this tract. The central hilly tract is the major watershed of the district. To the north of this tract the rivers and streams have a northerly course to join river Chambal, while to the south of this tract the waters flow to the south and south-east to join river Sind.



The plain of river Sind and its tributaries occupies a large part of the district in the south-east. Bounded by the western plateau in the west and by the central hill tract in the north, this plain slopes towards the east or south-east. The slope is more gentle in its western part than in its eastern part. River Sind, which forms the south-eastern boundary of the Pichhore tahsil of the district, is the main perennial river in this region. River Parbati, which also is a perennial river, and the rivers Nun and Chachond, flow towards the east. The courses of those streams which rise from the Central hilly tract and flow in this plain take a south-easterly direction in their upper reaches. The whole of the south-eastern plain has rich alluvial soil suitable for agriculture, but the rivers and streams in the greater length of their course have cut the banks and created ravines on their banks. Amidst these plains there are some residual tops of the east-west range, now denuded and partly buried under the newer sediments.

The north-east plain is drained by the rivers Sank, Sonrekha, Morar, Vaisali (Besuli) and Asan. This plain is separated by the central hilly tract from the south-eastern plain of river Sind. The general features of the north-eastern plain are similar to those of the south-eastern plain, though soil erosion has been more rigorous in the northern plains, especially along the upper streams of river Vaisali.

The Pahuj plain is co-extensive with the tahsil of Bhandar, and is a continuation of the plain of river Sind in Pichhore tahsil across Datia district in the west. In the southern part of Bhandar tahsil river Pahuj flows from south to north along the southern and eastern boundary of the tahsil. From near the village Chari ( $28^{\circ} 48' N$ ;  $78^{\circ} 40' E$ ) it flows towards the north-east until it crosses the boundary of Bhandar tahsil near Kanchri ( $25^{\circ} 52' N$ ;  $25^{\circ} 49' E$ ).

#### RIVER SYSTEM AND WATER RESOURCES

The Central range, running from west to east is the principal watershed of the district. The water parting line continues further west through Aron, Renhat and Din hill in the plateau region. All the rivers in the district, north of this line take a northerly course while those rising in the southern slopes flow towards the south in their early stages and then turn towards the east to join river Sind. In almost all parts of the district the drainage has developed a dendritic pattern.

All the rivers of the district, however, ultimately join the Yamuna in the north through the Chambal or the Sind. The waters of Bhandar tahsil of which Pahuj is the main river, join river Sind in Jalaun district of Uttar Pradesh. The important rivers of the district are Sank, Sonrekha, Morar, Vaisali, Sind, Nun, Chachond, Asan and Pahuj. All these rivers become full and active during the rainy season and carry a large amount of loose silt. In the cold weather, *i.e.*, from October to February, they mostly dwindle into small placid streams while in summer, from March to early June, there is either only a thin thread of water meandering in the middle of the dry river bed, or they dry up entirely. For this reason many of these rivers could not be utilised for purposes of irrigation or navigation.



**Sank.**—This river rises from Din (1,420 ft.) in Renhat Reserved forests, in Lat.  $26^{\circ}00'$  N and Long.  $77^{\circ}50'$  E. It flows in a north-easterly direction, and passes through the hilly tract all along its course until it crosses the district at village Tilghana where it enters Morena district. A dam, known as Tigra Dam, has been built near the villages of Kaitha and Tigra.

**Sonrekha.**—This is a tributary of river Sank. It originates in the village Girwai in the south-west of Lashkar and flows through the heart of the city in a circuitous route winding in and out and flowing northwards till it joins the river Sank in Morena district. The river is comparatively small in size and it completely dries up in the summer season.

**Morar.**—This is a tributary of river Vaisali which rises in the Santau hills and flows in a north-western direction, west of Morar Cantonment. It crosses the district a little to the north of village Bahadurpur. It has been dammed at three places, one at the border of village Kachhai and Naonera, the other at village Jaderna known as Morar Dam, and the third at village Guthina which is called Bahadurpur Guthina Dam. The river is not navigable. In summer it dwindles to a narrow stream in the bed of the river.

**Vaisali.**—This is one of the largest rivers in the north of this district, and is a tributary of river Sind. It rises to the west of Kali Pahar range, and in its course a large number of small streams traversing the plains empty their waters into it. It crosses the district five miles north of Parsar and enters Bind district collecting the drainage of nearly half of the area of the northern plain. The river cannot be used for navigation. In summer, there is water only in the northern course of the river. It flows in a northerly direction upto Supaoli and then turns in a north-westerly direction for a few miles and again turns north till it meets river Morar. The banks of the river are heavily eroded.

**Sind.**—This is the largest river that traverses the district. Rising in the Malwa plateau in Sironj tahsil (Vidisha district) it enters the southern plain of Gwalior district near  $25^{\circ}43'$  N. Lat. and serves as a boundary of the district upto  $26^{\circ}05'$  N. Lat. During its course it is joined by river Parbati, Nun, Jor, Chachond and numerous other small streams. It then takes a north-easterly course, and after flowing about 200 miles falls into the Yamuna.

**Parbati.**—The river Parbati which is known as Eastern Parbati, to distinguish it from the Western Parbati, rises in the district of Shivpuri. At the place where it enters Gwalior district, a dam known as Kaketa Dam has been constructed. From here it flows in a south-easterly direction forming a natural boundary of the district upto village Khiria from where it flows through the southern part of the district till it meets river Sind at village Powaya. Its waters have been impounded at Harsi by the Harsi Dam, which is one of the biggest dams in the Division, and has a good flow. The river is, however, not suitable for navigation as its banks are subject to rapid erosion.



**Nun.**—This river rises near Panniar in the central hilly tract. For a few miles it flows in a southerly direction and later turns eastward to join river Sind near Magrora. Near its source, the Nun has been dammed for irrigation purposes.

**Chachond.**—This river rises from the central hilly tract to the east of Antri. Nearly four miles downstream towards the south a dam has been built at Band Tal. From here onwards it takes an easterly course and, after being joined by a few tributaries, it falls into the river Sind near Silli ( $25^{\circ} 58' N$  Lat. and  $75^{\circ} 31' E$  Long.), after flowing across Pichhore tahsil. This river dries up in summer and hence is not suitable for navigation.

**Asan.**—It has its source in Morena district and enters Gwalior district at a little to the south of the Peeperjheel Reserved Forest, from where it flows along the western boundary of the district for about 15 miles in a north-east direction demarcating the districts of Morena and Gwalior. In its northern course, at the point where it leaves the district and enters Morena district, a dam has been constructed at Pagara Mukam. The greater part of this dam lies in Morena district, but the water stored at this dam is used to supply the other reservoirs in the area in times of water scarcity. The water is taken into the other reservoirs from where it is taken by canals to irrigate parts of Morena and Bhind districts.

**Pahuj.**—This is the only important river flowing through the plain of Bhandar. It rises in the Jhansi district of Uttar Pradesh and flows northwards forming the southern and eastern boundary of the tahsil. It enters the district at  $25^{\circ} 35' N$  Lat. and  $78^{\circ} 38' E$  Long. and from here onwards for about 15 miles it flows in an easterly direction and turns northward along the tahsil boundary upto  $25^{\circ} 45' N$  Lat. and  $78^{\circ} 45' E$  Long. little to the east of Bhandar town the river turns westwards, and almost cuts across the tahsil, and then turns and flows in a north-eastern direction crossing again the entire width of the tahsil till it leaves the district at Budera Ghat. It drains the entire area of the tahsil, with several small streams meeting it from both sides.

#### Tanks and Reservoirs

The major tanks and reservoirs of the district are:—

Tank	Tahsil		Area in acres
(1)	(2)		(3)
Harai dam	..	.. Pichhore	.. 6,400
Tigra dam	..	.. Gwalior ..	.. 4,805
Kaketa dam	..	.. Pichhore	.. 1,935
Ramana ..	..	.. Gwalior ..	.. 865
Tekanpur ..	..	.. Pichhore	.. 842



(1)	(2)	(3)
Himmatgarh .. ..	Gwalior .. ..	272
Sirsa .. ..	Gwalior .. ..	200
Birpur .. ..	Gwalior .. ..	78
Bagwai .. ..	Pichhore .. ..	54
Nun or Salwai .. ..	Pichhore .. ..	50

The Tigra reservoir is the source of water supply to Gwalior city and is also used for irrigation and fish culture. The other tanks in the district are mainly used for irrigation and fish culture only.

### The Underground Water Resources

Apart from the surface drainage, underground water is also an important source of water supply. It is a more important source of water supply in the rocky terrains where generally surface water is not available in the dry seasons. No data are available regarding the water-table in the alluvial areas of the district. But from observations of contiguous alluvial tracts of trans-Yamuna-Chambal basins, it is assumed that the water table should be around 15 to 45 feet below land surface. In Gwalior-Morar area water level in the wells varies from 17 to 47 feet. The working level of a tube-well sunk upto 175 feet in the alluvium in this area is 16 feet below the surface. The wells generally yield 15 to 20 thousand gallons of water per day. Thus, the supply of underground water through wells is feasible to some extent in the alluvial parts where the alluvium is reasonably thick.

The rock formation underlying the alluvium and outcropping in the western plateau and the central hilly tract do not make good aquifers. Here percolation of groundwater is possible only along joints, fractures or cracks and along weathered zones. For this reason only the wells of large diameter, fortified by infiltration galleries at depth can ensure a small scale supply for domestic and irrigation purposes. With an average annual rainfall of about 30 inches, the supply can be reasonably perennial. But no tube-well can be sunk in the hard rock areas. In the alluvial areas, tanks and ponds are built for ephemeral storage.

### GEOLOGY

Geomorphologically the area presents very simple features. The hill ranges in the western part are made up of sandstone which offers greater resistance to erosion and weathering, contributing to their dominant height in the district. Due to long period of exposure to sub-aerial condition, the area of Bundelkhand gneiss along the southern boundary has been peneplained to a low level ground.



The rock types exposed in the district belong to Archacans, Gwalior and Vindhya System<sup>1</sup> as shown below in order of increasing antiquity:—

Recent			Alluvium Laterite
	Bhander		Lower Bhander Sandstone and Limestone.
Upper Vindhyan	Rewa	Upper Rewa	Upper Rewa Sandstone and Shale.
		Lower Rewa	Jhiri Shales
			Lower Rewa Sandstone.
			Lower Rewa Shales.
	Kaimur	Kaimur Sandstone	
		Unconformity	
Gwalior		Gwalior Shales and Volcanics (Morar series)	
		Unconformity	
		Gwalior Sandstone (Par series)	
		Unconformity	
Archacan		Bundelkhand Gneiss and Quartz reefs.	

The oldest known sediments of this area, the Gwaliors, rest unconformably on the highly eroded and peneplained Archacans. Though the relation between the Gwaliors and the upper Vindhyan is disconformable, the surface of unconformity is highly irregular. This fact points to the long period of exposure to conditions of sub-aerial erosion before the start of upper Vindhyan sedimentation about 450 million years ago.

During the deposition of Gwalior shales, there were volcanic outbursts pouring out and spreading several flows of basic lavas together with a few of intermediate composition. Since the early palaeozoic time when the upper Vindhyan were deposited, this area did not get any cover of younger sediment except the recent alluvium. Geological history of the area is marked by a

1. The following accounts may be consulted for greater details:—

Records of Geological Survey of India, Vol. III, Part II.

Memoirs of Geological Survey of India, Vol. VII, Part I.

Bulletin of Geological Survey of India, Series A, No. 10.



second phase of stupendous volcanic activity pouring out a huge bulk of basic lava, extensive both in spread and thickness. This represents the Deccan trap which is about 60 million years old. The Deccan traps are, however, absent in the district and only some laterite, believed to have formed from the traps, provides a clue to their probable extension into this area.

### Archaeans

The Archaeans are represented by the Bundelkhand gneiss in the district, the outcrop beneath the Gwalior sandstone along the southern fringe of Par Scarp. The gneiss in the Scarp is highly decomposed and foliation is obscure, but in place where it can be traced the strike appears to be east-northeast.

The gneiss is mostly composed of red feldspar, quartz and biotite, but mica is often absent and sometimes steatite is very abundant. Towards the western end of the scarp, the gneiss shows white feldspars.

Quartz veins are very frequent in the gneissic terrain and their trend is  $30^{\circ}$  N to  $40^{\circ}$  E.

### The Gwalior System

The rocks belonging to this system constitute the hills to the east and south of the city of Gwalior and rest unconformably on the Bundelkhand gneiss. The dip of the rocks is towards the north and it seldom exceeds  $3^{\circ}$ . These rocks extend for about 50 miles in an east-west direction with a maximum outcrop width of 20 miles. The Gwaliors resemble and are believed to be equivalent to the Bijawars seen 150 miles south. There is still some doubt whether they are of Cuddapahs or Aravalli age. The age of the traps from the upper beds of the Gwaliors determined by the helium methods is 500 million years, and is equated with Cuddapahs.<sup>1</sup>

The Gwaliors have been divided into a lower Par series upto 200 feet in thickness and an upper Morar series which is over 2,000 feet thick.

The Par series consists principally of quartzite, sandstone and some shales into which sometimes Bundelkhand quartz reefs project. Quartzites within a few inches from the base of the Par series are conglomeratic in nature. The sandstone form the well marked scarp of Par. At the top of this series occurs a bed composed of alternations of limestone and siliceous banks. Sometimes the limestone band is absent and the beds are composed of quartzite with a peculiar colitic structure.

Morar series lies unconformably on the Par series and consists of shales, siliceous limestones, finely laminated ribboned jasper and hornstone beds frequently exceedingly ferruginous, but in places iron is entirely absent. The series also includes several spreads of contemporaneous traps such as Morar trap, Barai trap, Choura trap, Bela trap, Panniar trap, etc. On the top of Morar trap magnetic iron ore is abundant. Felsites occur above and below Choura, Bela, Panniar and Fasaulee traps.

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1. Proceedings of Indian Science Congress, Part III, p. 200.



### The Vindhyan System

The Vindhyan rocks are mostly confined to the hill ranges in the western part of the district. Only the upper Vindhyan are developed in the district and these comprise Kaimur sandstones, rocks of the Rewa series and lower Bhanders sandstones. The relationship between the Gwalior and the Vindhyan is sometimes disconformable. The Kaimur conglomerate overlaps the Bundelkhand gneiss.

The Vindhyan rocks form three parallel ridges extending in a north-south direction but north of the Par Scarp they trend roughly north east. The most easterly range is formed by the Kaimur conglomerate and sandstone. On the central ridge lower Rewa shales and sandstone are exposed while upper Rewa outcrops on the western ridge. There are also many outliers of the Kaimur sandstone resting upon the Gwalior. The largest one of these is the Gwalior hill fort. The rocks nearest to the Gwalior ridge are the upper Vindhyan, the upper group of which, the Bhanders, form a high scarp running nearly parallel to the ridge.

Bhanders are nearly horizontally disposed but at their north-western limit they show steep dips towards the south-east.

### Deccan Traps

Large areas to the south of the district in Shivpuri and Guna districts are covered by Deccan Traps. Though it is confined to the south, it is thought that the trap extended northward as the laterite which occurs on a peak of shales of the Gwalior system, 60 miles north from the main exposure of traps near Shivpuri, is thought to be a residual weathering product of trap and not of Gwalior.

### Laterite

In the northern area, there are two patches of laterite—one at Raipur hill and the other on the Kaimur sandstone about two miles to the north-west. Both these patches are small in extent and about 60 feet in thickness. To the south of the district, the traps are capped in some places by laterites. Superficial pebbly or pelley laterite is a common feature in the neighbourhood of the laterite capped hills.

### Economic Geology

The economic materials are building stones, clays, glass, sands, iron ores and limestones.

**Building Stones.**—Sandstones, both of the Kaimur and lower Rewa, are largely quarried for building stones.

**Iron Ore.**—Local smelters have used in the past the iron ore deposits that occur in the Gwalior series. The peak of Par hill is completely burrowed by the old workings, and similar extensive excavations occur at Mangore, Santau and other places, all in the same horizon in the Gwalior. The iron ores grade into jasper and hornstones of the series.

**Manganese.**—Nodules of psilomelane and wad are found to be scattered over the ironstone shale area of Morar stage but there is no large deposit of manganese ore.



**Limestone.**—Limestone is quarried locally but not on an extensive scale as the local people appear to prefer the *Kankar* to be found in the alluvium just west of Gwalior.

**Glass sand.**—The sandstones of the area are potential sources of glass sand.

**Clays.**—In the ferruginous and jaspery shales of the Morar series of the Gwalior system there are many deposits of the clay which have been worked for a considerable time. The clay beds upto 10 feet thick occupy various horizons of the series. The most important deposits occur at Bela-ki-Baori, Naogaon, Mahabir-ki-Kho, Dhiroli, Bastari, Bandholi and other locations.

A calcareous white clay derived from the decomposition of granite is being quarried from a bad land country, about a mile north-east of Antri.

**Saltpetre.**—Saltpetre (Potassium nitrate) was once manufactured from the efflorescence of the mineral found near Gwalior but now the practice has become uneconomic.

## FLORA

The vegetation of the district is of dry, deciduous variety. This is the result partly of the nature of the soil and partly of the climate of the district. The soil, particularly in the forested areas, is generally hard and shallow, while the average annual rainfall in the district is only about 30 inches. So thick vegetation is not noticeable in the greater part of the district.

### Forests

Nearly a fourth of the area of the district, i.e., about 300 square miles, is covered by forests, but almost 70 per cent of these forests is of poor quality since it consists mainly either of shrubs or grass. The forests in Gwalior district could be broadly classified in five categories:—

- (a) Dho and Kardhai.
- (b) Khair,
- (c) Miscellaneous,
- (d) Grass land, and
- (e) Unworkable areas.

(a) **Dho and Kardhai.**—*Dho* and *Kardhai* forests have an area of about 30 square miles covering Sonsa block of Benhat range, Antri, Santau, Peeperjheel, Kuleth, Sankuna and Dundapura blocks. The trees in these forests are of poor quality and their average girth is about 18 inches. The trees of *Tendu* (*Diospyros tomentosa*), *Khair* (*Acacia Catechu*), *Salai* (*Boswellia Serrata*), *Ber* (*Zizyphus mauritiana*), *Chhola* (*Butea monosperma*), *Jamrasi* (*Elaeodendron glaucum*) and *Reenjee* are also to be found in these jungles.

(b) **Khair.**—*Khair* (*Acacia Catechu*) forest is spread over an area of about 60 square miles and includes Sonsa, Bandholi, Antri, Raipur and Bhusavali. The *Khair* trees are of stunted growth and the quality of *Khair* found is not suitable for the manufacture of *Kuttha*. The entire production of the forest



is used as fuel and supplied to the neighbouring towns. The other common trees to be found in the forests are *Dho*, *Salai* (*Boswellia Serrata*), *Ber* (*Zizyphus mauritiana*), *Ghont* (*Zizyphus Xylophyra*) and *Chhola* (*Butea monosperma*).

(c) **Miscellaneous.**—This type of forests cover an area of 65 square miles and occur specially along the *nallas* and streams of Singhpur, Deogarh, Santau, Jinai, Sankua and Peeperjheel forest blocks. The common species found in the forest are *Kardhai*, *Khair* (*Acacia Catechu*), *Gurjan* (*Lannea Grandis*), *Ghont* (*Zizyphus Xylophyra*), *Ber* (*Zizyphus Jujuba*), *Salai* (*Boswellia Serrata*), *Kari* or *Karch* (*Sterculia Urens*), *Kaim* (*Stephegyne Parviflora*), *Nergundo* (*Vitex Negundo*), *Amaltas* (*Cassia Fistula*), *Chhola* (*Butea frondosa*), *Tinsa* (*Ougeinia Dalbergioides*), and *Tendu* (*Diospyros Melanoxylon*).

(d) **Grass Land.**—It covers nearly 200 square miles and consists of areas where intensive fellings in the past had resulted in the appearance of distinctive grass areas where a few trees of *Ghont*, *Ber*, *Reunjha* (*Acacia leucophloea*) and *Palas* are seen. *Ber* and *Palas* shrubs occur on the stony soil.

(e) **Unworkable Areas.**—It covers an area nearly 145 square miles inclusive of area under rest for recouping normal condition. The area is mostly devoid of vegetation and small sporadic plants of *Siari*, *Ber* or *Chhola* of stunted growth could be seen. Such areas are visible on the hills of Audhpur, Ajaypur, Raipur, Jinsi and Thar.

The principal species of trees found in the district are—*Semal* (*Salmalia Malabaricum*), *Kareh* (*Sterculia urens*), *Bhilwa* (*Semecarpus anacardium*), *Babcol* (*Acacia arbica*), *Reunjha* (*A. Leucophloea*), *Khair* (*A. Catechu*), *Dhaura* (*Anogeissus latifolia*), *A. Pendula*, *Reetha* (*Cordia rothii*), *Aonla* (*Embllica officinalis*), *Gadha palas* (*Erythrina suberosa*), *Gumhar* or *Siwan* (*Gmelina arborea*), *Ankol* (*Alangium salvifolium*), *Ber* (*Zizyphus mauritiana*), *Dudhai* (*Wrightia tomentosa*), *Khari* or *Girdu* (*Hollarrhena Antidysenterica*), *Jamun* (*Syzygium Cumini*), *Arjun* or *Koha* (*Terminalia arjuna*), *Kaim* (*Mitragyna parvifolia*) *Kusum* (*Schleichera oleosa*), *Mallotus Philippinensis*, *Sheesham* (*Dalbergia sissoo*) *Papra* (*Gardenia latifolia*), and *Saja* (*Lagerstroemia parviflora*). In the south-western part of the district, the hills are covered with a low forest containing many shrubs such as *Dhaman* (*Grewia vestula*), *Zizyphus oenoplia*, *Ghont* (*Z. Xylophyra*), *Woodfordia fruticosa*, *Casearia tomentosa*, *Karil* (*Capparis decidua*), *Antidesma diandrum* mixed with *Palas* (*Butea monosperma*) *Achar* (*Buchanania latifolia*), *Mahua* (*Madhuca indica*), *Tendu* (*Diospyros tomentosa*), *Gurjan* (*Lannea coromandelica*) and *Salai* (*Boswellia serrata*). The last one sometimes grows in dense patches. In the extreme south, the typical forest of Central India Highlands (Central Satpura dry deciduous) occurs and contains some Teak (*Tectona grandis*), *Saj* (*Terminalia tomentosa*), and other species as *Tinsa* (*Ougeinia dalbergioides*), *Shisham* (*Dalbergia latifolia*), *Anjan* (*Hardwickia binata*), *Ganiar* (*Cochlospermum gossypium*), *Mokha* (*Schrebera swietenoides*) and *Soyimida febrifuga*, the characteristic of the region. The forest produce consists of timber, grass, gum, lac and flowers and fruits of *Mahua* (*Madhuca*) and *Achar* (*Buchanania latifolia*).



## FAUNA

This district contains a large variety of wild life especially in the area covered by forests, shrubs and grasses. Among the animals commonly found are black buck, spotted deer, blue bull, panther, tiger, sloth bear, sambhar, jackal and langur monkey. Some of the forest blocks such as the Peeparjheel and Aron blocks in the west and Deogarh in the east are particularly noted for wild game and are kept as shooting blocks.

**Birds.**—There is a wide variety of birds in the district, prominent among them being the grey partridge (*Francolinus pondicarianus*), snipe (*Capella gullinaga*), pea fowl (*pallidus*), apart from the usual varieties of birds found almost everywhere.

**Fishes.**—Among the important fishes most commonly found in the waters of Gwalior district are *Mahseer*, *Labeo* spp., fresh water Shark, *Catla*, Murrels, *Tengara*, Mullet and the Indian Trout. The *Mahseer* which is found usually in rocky rivers, abounds in the Sank, Asan, Parbati and Sind rivers. Among the *Labeo* group important fishes are *Rohu* and *Kalbans*. *Rohu* is found in Sank and Asan rivers, while *Kalbans* abounds in the Asan. *Narani* (*Mirghal*) is found in the Tigra dam and Pagara dam. The murrel is found in almost all rivers and tanks, but the fresh water shark abounds in Tigra and Pagara tanks. The Mullet is found in almost all running waters, while a variety of the Indian Trout is found in the Morar river.

Other varieties of fish available in the district are *Labeo boga*, *Labeo bogut*, *Labeo gonius*, *Cirrhina reba*, *Barbus titius*, *Barbus ticto*, *Barbus stigma*, *Barbus sarana*, *Barbus phutundo*, *Ophiocephalus punctatus*, *Ophiocephalus gachua*, *Notopterus chitala*, *Notopterus notopterus*, *Mastacembelus armatus*, *Mastacembelus pancalus*, *Mystus seenghala*, *Silondia silondia*, *Pseudotropheus garua*, *Eutropichthya vacha*, *Heterophneustes fossilis*, *Calichrous pobda*, *Calichrous bimaculatus*, *Ambassis nama*, *Ambassis ranga*, *Gadusia chapra*, *Chela bacaila*, *Chela clupoides*, *Chela phula*, *Gora*, *Esomus denricua*, *Rasbora deniconius*, *Amblypharyngodon mola*, *Rohito citio*, *Glossogobius giuris*, etc.

## CLIMATE

The district falls into the region of Monsoon climate with the well known peculiarity of a marked rainy season during the late summer months. The meteorological data of the district is derived mainly from the records of the 'C' class meteorological observatory at Gwalior and the rain gauge stations at Gwalior Fort, Gwalior Residency, Morar, Bhandar, Ghatigaon and Pichhore.

The hot weather begins in March and continues till the onset of the monsoon in June. The mean monthly temperatures rise gradually after January, usually reaching the maximum in May (43°. 1 C or 109°. 6 F). The temperature gradually falls after May but a secondary maximum accounts in September when the monsoon is weakening. The night temperatures are highest in June and lowest in December. The lowest ever recorded temperature was 0°. 0 C (32° F).



recorded on the 25th December 1945, and the highest recorded was  $48.3^{\circ}$  C ( $118.94^{\circ}$  F) on the 30th May 1947. The diurnal range of temperature is high except in the monsoon months.

During the post-monsoon and winter seasons the winds are comparatively weak and blow generally from a northerly to a north-westerly direction. The winds strengthen and become more westerly in the summer months. During the monsoon both westerlies and easterlies are common. The mean wind speed is highest in the month of June when it is 7.9 kms. per hour. It is lowest in the month of December when it is 2.1 kms. per hour. Severe thunderstorms and duststorms both occur most in the summer and rainy seasons. Some of the thunderstorms that occur in the late winter and pre-monsoon months are accompanied with hail. The district is affected by monsoon depressions which originate in the Bay of Bengal and move west-north-westwards.

### Rainfall

Except during the monsoon months when the sky is moderately to heavily clouded, the skies are generally clear. Occasionally in the months of December and January the clouds cover up the sky. The normal annual rainfall of the district is 732.3 mm. (23.83"). About 92% of this rainfall is received during the monsoon months, June to September. The spatial variations of rainfall in the district is not much. There is considerable variation in the rainfall from year to year. In the fifty-year period from 1901 to 1950 the highest rainfall in a year, amounting to 181% of the normal, fell in 1904 and the very next year (1905) recorded the lowest rainfall only 39% of the normal. During the same period of fifty years the annual rainfall exceeded, 900 mm. in ten years, while it failed to reach even 600 mm. in nine years. The annual rainfall ranged from 601 to 700 mm. during 13 years. There were two occasions when two consecutive years had low rainfall. Considering individual stations, three consecutive years of low rainfall have occurred at two stations. On an average the district gets a daily rainfall of 2.5 mm. (10 cents) or more on 36 days. Of these, 31 days are in the monsoon period. The spatial variation in the number of rainy days is small. The western plateau and the central hilly tract, as also Bhandar tahsil, get a higher number of rainy days than the district average. The highest rainfall recorded in a day in the district was 374.3 mm. (10.8") at Pichhore on the 29th June, 1952, although normally this station gets the lowest annual rainfall in the district.

### Humidity

The climate of the district is on the whole dry. The mean relative humidity is as low as 15% in the summer afternoons of April. The humidity in the district has two highs, namely, in the monsoon months and in January, with subsequent lows. The highest percentage of mean relative humidity is 82 in the forenoon, in August.

Fog occurs when increasing humidity combines with decreasing temperatures. Such conditions along with other factors give rise to occasional fogs in the months of December, January and July. It is mostly seen before sunrise and in the low lying moist valleys, on the leeward side of the raised terrain. The highest mean number of days with fog is recorded as 1.2 in January.



## CHAPTER II

### HISTORY

The region covered by the present Gwalior district has a rich historical tradition. As far back as the beginning of the sixth century B. C. this area was ruled over by the House of the Nandas of Pataliputra who had supplanted the Saisunagas. The historic town of Padmavati, modern Padam Pawa, which is some 42 miles south-west of Gwalior, was at one time the capital of a kingdom which included a major part of the present Gwalior district. There is evidence of the existence of Naga rule round about Gwalior region at the commencement of the first century A.D. An epigraphic record at Pawa shows that an image of Yaksha Manibhadra was dedicated by some members of a public body in the fourth regnal year of Svamin Sivanandi who was an early king of the Naga dynasty.<sup>1</sup> Later, the Nagas appear to have been displaced in this region by the Kushanas who were the leading political power at the time in the north.

The Kushanas built an extensive empire which continued for a considerable time and stretched from Central Asia to the heart of India. They ruled their vast kingdom through the agency of satraps or governors, who were generally of a foreign extraction. One of their satraps, Vanasphara by name, governed over this area and made himself very unpopular with his subjects by following a policy of social tyranny and religious fanaticism.<sup>2</sup> This, together with the rise of other powers in the Yaudheyas, the Arjunayanas, the Kunindas, displacement of the Kushanas by the Yaudheyas, the Arjunayanas, the Kunindas, the Malavas and Nagas, who worked in their individual way to dislodge the local Kushana governors.

The end of the Kushana rule synchronizes with the resurgence of the Nagas who succeeded in capturing Padmavati and its surrounding region. The establishment of their rule over this area in the 3rd and 4th century A. D. can be deduced not only from epigraphic, numismatic and literary records but also from the names of certain localities which are named after them, and a large number of families with the cognomen Naga.

The Naga rulers of Padmavati known from the evidence of coins are Bhima, Skanda, Vasu, Brihaspati, Vibhu, Ravi, Bhavanaga, Prabhakara, Deva, Vyaghra and Ganapati.<sup>3</sup> Of these only three viz., Bhavanaga, Ganapati and Nagasena figure in epigraphical documents. Bhavanaga is mentioned as the maternal grand-father of Rudrasen I in the Vakataka grants.<sup>4</sup> Concerning the Naga ruler, Ganapati, we have further historical information as his name is

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1. Archaeological Survey of India, Annual Report, 1915-16, pp. 105-06; M. B. Garde, *Padmavati*, p. 4.

2. K. P. Jayaswal, *History of India* (A. D. 150-350), pp. 41-43.

3. H. V. Trivedi, *Catalogue of the Coins of the Naga Kings of Padmavati*, pp. XI-XXIII.

4. Chamamak Copper Plate Inscription of the Maharaja Pravarasena II, *Corpus Inscriptionum*, Vol. III, pp. 335-41.



mentioned in the Allahabad Pillar Inscription of Samudragupta in the list of kings whom he violently exterminated. He may thus be regarded as the last of Nagas whose kingdom was annexed to the Gupta empire. The same inscription mentions two more names, Nagasena and Nagadatta. The *Harsh-charita* also refers to a Naga king of Padmavati named Nagasena who died on account of some political intrigues.<sup>1</sup> Sankararya, the commentator of *Harshacharita*, however, explains that it was a minister of Nagasena who had usurped power by killing his master.

The Naga rulers of Padmavati were Bharasivas, who originally inhabited the Bundelkhand region and from there they spread towards the Gangetic plains. They adopted Siva as the presiding deity of their empire, and performed ten horse sacrifices to commemorate their triumph over the Kushanas. The Naga House of Padmavati, therefore, would appear to deserve the credit of liberating a major part of the country from the foreign yoke.

That under the Gupta emperors the region was in a prosperous state is proved by a number of carved sculptures and other remnants discovered at Padmavati. From the time of Kumara Gupta I, however, the Gupta empire began to hasten towards its dissolution, and by about 467 A. D. the empire had almost collapsed. At this period the activities of the Hunas threatened its existence and challenged its suzerainty in Malwa. An inscriptional passage shows that Mihirakula's sovereignty extended upto Gwalior where a Sun temple was erected by Matricheta.<sup>2</sup> According to the Jain traditions Ama, the son and successor of Yasovarman of Kanauj, held his Court at Gopagiri (Gwalior).<sup>3</sup> It was about this time that there arose three great dynasties which were destined to play a dominant role in history, namely, the Gurjara Pratiharas in Kanauj, the Rashtrakutas in the south and the Palas of Bengal, of whom the Gurjara Pratihara were the earliest. The Pratihara dynasty came into prominence in the second quarter of the eighth century A. D. by the successful resistance it offered under Nagabhata I to the Arabs. The Gwalior inscription describes him as the image of Narayana for having "crushed the large armies of the powerful Mlechchha king".

Little is known of the immediate successors of Nagabhata I but the Gwalior inscription speaks of the vast conquests of the fourth ruler, Nagabhata II, who consolidated the empire and exercised his sway over the greater part, if not the whole of Rajasthan and north Gujarat. In the east his empire extended upto Gwalior. The next Pratihara ruler who rose to eminence was the illustrious Bhoja, two of his recorded dates being A. D. 836 and 882. At that time, he was already in possession of the region round the Gwalior fort. He embarked upon a series of conquests and raised his kingdom to a position of

1. *'Naga-kula-janmanah Sarikasravita mantrasya Nagasenasya Padmavatyam.*

2. Gwalior Stone Inscription of Mihirakula, *Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum*, Vol. III, pp. 161-64.

3. R. S. Tripathi, *History of Kanauj*, p. 311.



eminence. He has left indelible marks on the history of Gwalior in the shape of two inscriptions dated A. D. 875 and 876 which are a mine of information regarding local administration in Pratihara empire. One of the inscriptions refers to the erection of a Vishnu temple by Alla who was officer-in-charge of the fort (*Kottapala*).<sup>1</sup> Alla's father was a Brahman and was appointed 'Warden of Marches' (*Maryadadhurya*) by Emperor Rambhadra. Among the other officers of the local government mentioned by name are Tattaka (*Baladhikrita*) Babbiyak and Ichubanak (*Sreshthis*) and Sabbiyak (*Sarthavaha*). There was a Council consisting of two Guild Presidents and one Caravan Leader to direct the civil affairs of the town. Not only was the civil administration of the town separated from the military, but the command of the fort was kept distinct from that of the troops stationed thereabout. Regarding the nature of the civil administration we are informed that the whole town (*Sakalasthan*) made a donation of land in specified villages which were in its possession (*Svabhukti*). The description of the donated land as measured by the Imperial cubits (*Paramesvariya-hasta*) suggests that the official standard was used for the survey of land. The epigraph also throws light on the economic life prevailing in the region. We learn that both industrial and mercantile guilds functioned in Gwalior, as there is a mention of guilds of people of common professions such as oilmen, gardeners and others.

Gwalior region continued to be included in the Pratihara realm under king Mahendrapala I, son and successor of Bhoja I, early in the 10th century and epigraphic records show that the region was also under Mahendrapala II who came to the throne in 946 A. D. Thereafter, it appears that the process of disintegration overtook it. The feudatory chiefs and provincial governors slowly asserted independence and new dynasties rose to power. It was during this period of turmoil that the fortress of Gwalior slipped out of their hands.

The Chandella ruler, Dhanga (A. D. 950-1008), who had defeated his Gurjara-Pratihara overlord, is credited with the occupation of Gwalior, the stronghold of Pratiharas. His kingdom is said to have extended "as far as that mountain called, Gopa."<sup>2</sup> But the Kacchapaghata records show that the Gwalior region including the strategic fort was in possession of Vajradaman at the same time, as evidenced by the Sas Bahu Temple Inscription of Mahipaladeva of V.S. 1150.<sup>3</sup>

We have thus the evidence of the conquest of Gwalior first by the Chandella Dhanga, and again by the Kacchapaghata Vajradaman. In reality, however, these two episodes are not separate incidents, but refer to a single

1. Epigraphia Indica, Vol. I, p. 159.

2. ibid, pp. 129 and 134.

3. Indian Antiquary, Vol. XV., pp. 33-46.



event in which the Chandellas and the Kacchapaghata were closely associated together. Vajradaman was a local feudatory chief of Dhanga, whom he assisted in the capture of Gwalior.

The first prince of the Kacchapaghata dynasty was Lakshmana, about whose reign little is known. His son, Vajradaman, has been identified with Maharajadhiraja Vajradaman of a fragmentary Jain image inscription of Gwalior dated V.S. 1034 (977 A.D.).<sup>1</sup> About his achievement's were told that "when by honest measures he had put down the rising valour of the ruler of Gadhinagara (Kanauj), his proclamation drum, which fulfilled his vow of heroism, resounded in the fort of Gopadri, conquered in battle by his irresistible strong arm."<sup>2</sup> The identity of *Gadhinagardhisa*, who is thus claimed to have been defeated, is not mentioned. Vajradaman bore the title of Maharajadhiraja which indicates an independent status, but it is generally assumed that he was under the hegemony of the Chandellas.

A successor of Vajradaman named Kirttiraja defeated in battle the "countless host" of the prince of Malwa (*Malava-bhumipa*), who was possibly Bhoja Paramara. It is said that the Malwa army received such a terrible shock that the spears fell from their hands through fear and were subsequently collected by the villagers and heaped around their houses.<sup>3</sup> Considering the strength of the Paramara ruler it is difficult to believe that the Kacchapaghata chief accomplished this triumph without any help from the Chandella ruler Vidyadhara, his overlord. Another notable event of his reign was an attack by Mahmud of Ghazni who had come to chastise the kings of Kalinjar and Gwalior for the help they had sent to Anandapala in A. D. 1008 and their subsequent hostility towards Rajyapala of Kanauj for his friendly attitude towards the Muslims. The fort of Gwalior was invested in 1021-22 A.D., and after a brief siege of four days, the Rajput ruler sued for peace by making a present of 35 elephants to him.

According to the Rajput traditions the last king of the Kacchapaghata dynasty was Tej Karan, popularly known as Dulha Rai, "the bridegroom prince". He left Gwalior in 1128 A. D. and there are different stories as to the cause of his departure. According to some he was expelled by his uncle while others say that he left in order to marry the daughter of the Bargujar Rajput chief of Daosa, who offered him the chieftainship of his own principality. The romantic character and deeds of Dulha Rai are celebrated in folk songs which are popular in the region.<sup>4</sup>

In 1195-96 Muhammad Ghuri attacked Sallakshana or Lohang Deo of Gwalior. The fort, however, withstood the attack tenaciously, and therefore, when the Pratihara chief opened negotiations, Muhammad Ghuri welcomed the opportunity, and raised the siege. Sallakshana accepted his suzerainty and was allowed to continue to rule. But the Sultan thought it strategically inadvisable

1. Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, Vol. XXXI, p. 393, plate VI and pp. 399-400.

2. Indian Antiquary, Vol. XV, pp. 36 and 41.

3. *ibid.* Vol. XV, pp. 36 and 42.

4. Imperial Gazetteer of India, Vol. XIII, pp. 384-85; and Cunningham, Archaeological Survey Report, Vol. II, p. 376.



to allow a half-subdued enemy in possession of a strong fort like Gwalior, and its reduction was left to Malik Baha-ud-din Tughril.<sup>1</sup> The latter carried out a vigorous campaign against the ruling king and after laying waste his territory, cut off Gwalior's communications from the plains. Within a year and half the Rajput garrison was reduced to great distress, and the ruler surrendered the fort to Qutb-ud-din Aibak, Muhammad Ghuri's general, who appointed Iltutmish as Amir of the fort.

Qutb-ud-din's death in A. D. 1210 threatened the infant Muslim State in India. During the brief interlude of the weak rule of Aram Shah (A.D. 1210-11) the Hindus regained their lost initiative and the Pratihara chief Vighraha appears to have recovered Gwalior. His son and successor Malayavarman starting from Gwalior as the base expanded his rule over Jhansi and Narwar. He married the daughter of Chahamana Kelhana of Nadol and his coins and inscriptions found at these places prove a continuous occupation of Gwalior from at least A. D. 1223 to 1230.

In A. D. 1231 Iltutmish put the Gwalior fort under a blockade, but the defence was so stubborn that at times the Sultan had to encourage his men by addresses and exhortations delivered by Maulvis. Resolute fighting and personal command of the Sultan ultimately forced the garrison to capitulate after a severe siege of 11 months. The Rajput king Dewbal (Devavarma), who has been variously styled by Muslim writers, escaped, but "about seven hundred *gahrs* were directed to be brought to public execution before the entrance of the sublime pavilion"<sup>2</sup> as a deterrent punishment. The local bards have movingly described, how, when all hope had been lost, the Rajput ladies in the royal harem performed *Jauhar* by immolating themselves near the tank, which is still called *Jauharta*.

The bard tells how seventy queens of the Raja presented themselves before him and urged :

*Pahile hame ju jauhar pari tab tum juihe kanth samhari.*

(First we will perform Jauhar, and then thou, Oh husband, shall join the fray).

Thereafter the prince and his brave followers rushed out in desperation and fell fighting in the battle-field :

*Juihyo Sarang Deo ran rang*

*Ek hajar panch so sang*

(So Sarang Deo in battle died, with fifteen hundred men beside.)

This event was commemorated in an inscription which was seen by Babur near the Urwahi gate, but is now lost. The wall enclosing the Urwahi valley was built in Iltutmish's day.

1. Tabakat-i-Nasiri, Tr. by Raverty, pp. 346-47.

2. *ibid.*, pp. 619-20.



The death of Iltutmish in 1236 A. D. was followed by a period of dynastic changes. It was during this period of internal turmoil that the fortress of Gwalior was reconquered by Nrivarman (Naravarman), brother of Malayavarman, who is known to have been ruling in A. D. 1247. Nrivarman's successor seems to have been Hariraja of Gwalior, who suffered a defeat at the hands of Chandella general, Balbhadra Mallaya, during the reign of Viravarman.<sup>1</sup>

In the meantime, in the neighbourhood of Gwalior an equally strong power had established itself in the person of Chahada who founded the Jajapella or Yajvapala dynasty of Narwar (ancient Nalapura). He was the greatest of all the *rais* of that tract of country and commanded a huge army of 5,000 cavalry and 2,00,000 footmen.<sup>2</sup> He commenced his operations against Muslim garrison of Gwalior, and such was his pressure that Raziyya was forced to send an expedition from Delhi under Tamur Khan in the early years of her reign.<sup>3</sup>

The reinforcements proved ineffective and she directed Malik Taj-ud-din Sanjara to evacuate the civil and military personnel.<sup>4</sup> Hereafter Gwalior became a centre from which Jajapella's power radiated over a lengthening arc enclosing Chanderi, Malwa and neighbouring territories.

In A. D. 1251, during the sultanate of Nasir-ud-din, his general Balban marched against the Rana Chahir Ajari and plundered Gwalior fort but could not establish his supremacy there.<sup>5</sup> Chahadadeva's coins bear dates extending from A. D. 1237 to 1254.<sup>6</sup> Balban conquered Gwalior in A.D. 1258 and placed Malik Nusrat-un-din in charge of it.

In 1295 A.D. Jalal-ud-din Firuz Shah Khalji came on a hunting tour to Gwalior, and Ferishta states that he built a large domed rest-house for travellers which bore an inscription.<sup>7</sup> Under the Khaljis the fort was used as a state prison and Ala-ud-din sent Ahmad Chap. Alghu, the Mughul, Khizr Khan, and Shadi Khan to Gwalior.<sup>8</sup> Qutb-ud-din Mubarak Shah (A. D. 1316-20) and Muhammad Tughluq (1326-51) incarcerated several of their relatives here. It formed a part of the Tughluq empire and Ibn Battuta who visited it in September, 1342, calls it 'a big city with an impregnable fortress isolated on the summit of a mountain'. He says the garrison was commanded by Ahmad bin Sher Khan.<sup>9</sup>

1. Dahi plate of Viravarmadeva V. S. 1317. Cunningham, Archeological Survey Report, Vol. XXI, pp. 76-77; Indian Antiquary, 1918. p. 241; and Indian Historical Quarterly, Vol. XXXII, pp. 404-05.

2. Tabakat-i-Nasiri, Tr. by Raverty, p. 891.

3. *ibid*, p. 639.

4. *ibid*, p. 643 and note.

5. *ibid*, p. 690.

6. Cunningham, Coins of Medieval India, pp. 92-93.

7. Tarikh-i-Ferishta, Tr. by Briggs, Vol. I, p. 311.

8. Muntakhab-ut-Tawarikh, Tr. by Ranking, Vol. I, pp. 248 and 268.

9. The Rehla of Ibn Battuta, Tr. by Mahdi Hussain, p. 183.



During the confusion caused by Timur's invasion in 1398 the lofty fortress of Gwalior fell to the Tomara Rajputs who successfully held sway till the final denouement of the Lodi dynasty in 1518. The founder of this house was Bir Singh Deo, son of a petty zamindar of Isa-Manemola village in Dandroli. By dint of merit he rose to a high position at the court, and was given the charge of Gwalior which he seized through a stratagem. By acknowledging the suzerainty of Muhammadan kings he and his successors were allowed to retain possession of the fort, and in course of time this small Tomara principality grew rapidly in strength.

The Gwalior-nama states that a Saiyad Miran Yaqub was made governor by Iltutmish and that the rule remained in his family until Bir Singh Deo acquired the fort.<sup>1</sup>

In November-December 1402 Mallu Iqbal Khan, commander of Nasir-ud-din Mahmud Tughluq (A.D. 1394-1412), launched a campaign against Gwalior, then held by Virama Deo, son of Bir Singh Deo.<sup>2</sup> He ravaged the country-side but the hill fortress stood the siege so well that Iqbal Khan had to retire. The next year he again attacked it and defeated the prince at Dholpur, at that time a Tomara stronghold. In A. D. 1404-1405 Iqbal Khan marched towards the beleaguered town of Etawah and defeated the Rajput forces led by Tomara prince and others who bought peace by making a gift of four elephants and also agreed to pay an annual *Khiraj*.<sup>3</sup> In 1416 Khizr Khan (A.D. 1414-1421) deputed his Vazier Malik Taj-ul-Mulk to exact tribute due from Virama Deo.<sup>4</sup>

In 1424 Dungar Singh ascended the throne at Gwalior. In the first year of his reign Hushang Shah (A.D. 1405-1435) of Malwa blockaded the fort but was repulsed with the help of Mubarak Shah of Jaunpur.<sup>5</sup> It would appear that the Sultan of Delhi sent punitive expeditions to Gwalior in 1427, 1428, 1429 and 1432 for the exaction of tribute.<sup>6</sup>

Dungar Singh Tomara was a ruler of extraordinary abilities, and under him the State attained a new eminence in the political life of North India. In 1438 he attempted to capture Narwar, then owing allegiance to the Malwa Sultan, but in this he did not succeed as he had to hurry back to meet Hushang Shah who had made a diversionary attack on Gwalior fort.<sup>7</sup> Dungar Singh's reign is notable for the memorable work on the Jain sculptures on the sides of

1. Shrinant Balwant Row Bhaya Saheb Scindia, *History of the Fortress of Gwalior*, p. 17.

2. *Tarikh-i-Mubarakshahi*, Tr. by K. K. Basu, p. 177.

3. *ibid*, p. 178.

4. *ibid*, p. 192.

5. *ibid*, p. 209.

6. *ibid*, pp. 213, 217, 222, 234.

7. *Tarikh-i-Ferishta*, Tr. by Briggs, Vol. IV, p. 205.



the fort hill, which are cut out in a high and low relief on the rocks. It is recorded that he made a complimentary present of certain musical treatises to Sultan Zain-ul-Abedin of Kashmir.<sup>1</sup>

He was succeeded by his son Kirti or Karan Singh in 1455, in whose time the rock sculptures of Gwalior were completed. By this time the State had gained so much political strength that kings of Jaunpur, Malwa and Delhi, all sought its alliance.

In 1465 Husain Shah Sharqi of Jaunpur invested the fort but Kirti Singh averted the assault by negotiating an alliance with him.<sup>2</sup> The alliance thus concluded proved to be the ground for a long-drawn duel between the Tomara principality and the Sultanate of Delhi, which was constantly at war with the State of Jaunpur. After three years Bahlul Lodi (1451-1489) launched a campaign against Jaunpur and routed the Sharqi forces at Rapri. Husain Shah Sharqi took shelter with the Tomara king who tried to prop up the tottering Sharqi kingdom by providing him with finance and escort.<sup>3</sup>

Kirti Singh is said to have constructed a large lake, now no longer extant, which stretched from Shankarpura (26° 14' N; 78° 11' E) and Akbarpura (26° 15' N; 78° 10' E) to the hills of Adli Badli and Bala Raja. Raidhu, a contemporary of Dungar Singh Tomara, has left graphic accounts of Gwalior in his three unpublished works, i.e., *Parshva-Purana*, *Padma Charita* and *Samyakatva-gunanidhana*. In *Parshva-Purana* he says how Gopachal (Gwalior) was a prosperous town and the people's life was full of happiness and peace, the citizens were religious, generous and gentle. Dungar Singh and his son Kirti Singh are described as devout Jains, and this accounts for the absence of thieves, dacoits and other anti-social elements in Gwalior, and none was found to be poor and unhappy. At the road crossings beautiful markets were built, where merchants traded in various commodities. The city was adorned with Jain temples and *Shravakas* were engaged in charity and worship.<sup>4</sup>

The greatest king of this line was Man Singh who adorned the hill castle with new edifices which represent a style more or less indigenous in character. His eventful rule from 1486 to 1517 marks a period of cultural and political eminence of the State. He constructed many irrigation works, including numerous tanks and the Moti Jhil to the north-west of the town.<sup>5</sup> He was a great connoisseur of music, and was especially known for his proficiency in compositions, some of which still survive to justify the esteem in which they were held by his contemporaries. His munificent patronage of musicians brought into existence the Gwalior School of Music which flourished under him and later on gave Akbar 16 singers out of 36 named in *Ain-i-Akbari*, including Tansen, the most celebrated musician of them all. In his musical pursuits he was ably

1. *Tabakat-i-Akbari*, Tr. by B. De, Vol. III, pp. 659-60.

2. *Tarikh-i-Ferishta*, Tr. by Briggs, Vol. IV, p. 376.

3. Elliot and Dowson, *The History of India as told by its own Historians*, Vol. V, pp. 88-89.

4. H. N. Dwivedi, *Madhya Deshiya Bhasha*, pp. 138, 140.

5. Cunningham, *Archaeological Survey Report*, Vol. II, p. 387.



supported by his favourite Gujar Queen, Mrignayani, the Fawn-eyed, for whom he built the exquisite Gujar Mahal palace.

In the political field his most notable contribution was the statesmanship he showed in resisting the Lodi imperialism and thus helped the struggling small states of North India in their fight against the Muslim aggression. He adopted a dual policy towards the Sultanate of Delhi. On the one hand he maintained friendly relations with the Sultans while on the other, he harboured rebels like Raj Ganesh, Saa'id Khan, Babu Khan and others whom he offered covert support. About 1491 he complimented Bahlul Lodi by sending a present of 80 lakhs of *tankas* when he marched past the borders of Gwalior.<sup>1</sup> This friendly gesture was reciprocated by his successor, Sikandar Lodi, who came to Gwalior next year and presented Man Singh with a *khillat*.<sup>2</sup> About A. D. 1500 Man Singh sent as his envoy, one Nihal Singh, whose behaviour towards the Sultan was considered so disrespectful that Sikandar in a rage swore he would reduce the fort into submission.<sup>3</sup> The remaining period of Man Singh's rule was marked by a violent warfare between the Lodi King and the Tomara chieftain.

In March 1501 A. D. Sikandar Lodi started operations by attacking Dholpur whose chief, Manik Deo, was a vassal of Raja Man Singh. The fort was blockaded and the Sultan terrorised the inhabitants by a policy of devastation. In fear the ruler fled to Gwalior. The Sultan followed his victory by marching towards Gwalior and encamped on the bank of Mandakini. The astute Tomara chief expelled some of the rebels, and sent his son Vikramaditya to negotiate peace, and thus averted a fight.<sup>4</sup>

After four years the hostilities were resumed when the Sultan stormed the outlying fortress of Mandrail, situated 12 miles south-east of Karoli. It yielded after a feeble resistance. Rebellion was endemic in this predominantly Rajput region and in an effort to stamp it out the Sultan founded the city of Agra (1505-1506), which was turned into a spear-head of his activities against Gwalior. This became manifest when he reconquered Dholpur and followed it up with campaign against Gwalior.<sup>5</sup> The Rajputs adopted guerilla tactics which were more suited to the terrain and their limited resources. They harassed the invaders by cutting off supplies, and a sudden attack on Sikandar in an ambush from which he narrowly escaped with his life, forced him to beat a hasty retreat. The Persian annalists credit Sikandar with success, but, in reality, his campaign met with complete failure. In December 1506 A.D. the Afghan ruler stormed the fort of Utgir (Awantgar) into submission. Next he attacked Narwar, whose ruler had fluctuated in his allegiance to the Malwa Sultan and the Gwalior ruler. From this time onwards Man Singh ruled in peace and was free to devote himself to his favourite pursuits of music and architecture.

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1. Muntakhab-ut-Tawarikh, Tr. by Ranking, Vol. I, p. 410.

2. ibidi, p. 414.

3. Elliot and Dowson, The History of India as told by its own Historians, Vol. V, pp. 96-97.

4. ibid, p. 98.

5. ibid, p. 100.



In 1517 once more Sikandar Lodi deputed ~~the eminent general~~ Azam Humayun Sarwani to storm the fort, but the Sultan suddenly died. On the succession of Ibrahim Lodi, Azam Humayun at first sided with Jalal-ud-din Khan, who contested the claims of his brother and raised the siege but soon after forsook him for Ibrahim. On this Jalal-ud-din sought protection with Raja Man Singh, whereupon Azam Humayun again started hostilities. But the hill fortress stood four-square in proud defiance of the invaders, so long as Man Singh lived.

Raja Man Singh's death was followed by a formidable attack on the fort conducted by the Afghan generals. The siege was pressed with much violence, and in spite of a stubborn defence, Azam Humayun stormed gate after gate, losing heavily at each advance. Among others Taj Nizam, one of Ibrahim Lodi's chief nobles, fell in the assault on the Lakshman gate, and his tomb still stands outside it. This was probably the last gate that had to be forced as, after a long-drawn fighting of one year, Vikramaditya surrendered. He was granted the fief of Shamsabad and became a vassal of the Sultan of Delhi. With Vikramaditya's surrender closes the history of Tomaras, who made splendid contribution to the glory of this hill fortress.

Vikramaditya took part in the battle of Panipat in 1526, but was killed along with his master. His death is noted by the Emperor Babur<sup>1</sup>, as well as by the humble Hindu bard Kharg Rai:

*Juji Virahim Khan tahan paryo  
Raja Vikram to lon giryo.<sup>2</sup>*

(Ibrahim Khan fought and fell there, Raja Vikram too fell for him.)

His family was then in Agra, which was garrisoned by the Tomara Rajputs. On its capitulation they were treated with great generosity by Humayun. In return they presented him with rich jewels including a big diamond which was valued by Tavernier at £ 8,80,000.<sup>3</sup>

When Babur succeeded to the Imperial throne, Gwalior was held by Tatar Khan, a general of Ibrahim Lodi.<sup>4</sup> He professed submission to Babur who despatched Rahim Dad to take over the fort, but the Lodi Governor refused to give it up. Rahim Dad, however, occupied it through a stratagem in which he was assisted by Muhammad Ghaus, the celebrated Muslim saint. Babur himself visited Gwalior on September 26, 1528 and has left this interesting account of his impressions :—

“Riding on next day after the Mid-day Prayer, we visited the low hills to the north of Gualiar, and the Praying-place, went into the fort through the Gate called *Hati-put* which joins Man Singh's buildings (*imarat*), and dismounted,

1. Cunningham, Archaeological Survey Report, Vol. II, p. 389.

2. *Ibid.*

3. William Erskine, A History of India under Babur and Humayun, Vol. I, p. 438.

4. Memoirs of Babur, Tr. by Leyden and Erskine, pp. 345-46.



close to the other Prayer, at those (*imaratlar*) of Raja Bikramajit in which Rahim-dad had settled himself. The next day, sickness notwithstanding, I visited the building (*imaratlar*) of Man Singh and Bikramajit thoroughly. They are wonderful buildings, entirely of hewn stone, in heavy and unsymmetrical blocks however. Of all the Rajas' buildings Man Singh's is the best and loftiest. It is more elaborately worked on its eastern face than on the others. The face may be 40 to 50 *qari* (yards) high, and is entirely of hewn stone, whitened with plaster. In parts it is four storeys high; the lower two are very dark; we went through them with candles. On one side of this building are five cupolas having between each two of them a smaller one, square after the fashion of Hindustan. On the larger ones are fastened sheets of gilded copper. On the outside of the walls is painted-tile work, the semblance of plaitain-trees being shown all round with green tiles. In a bastion of the eastern front is the *Hati-pul*, *hali* being what these people call an elephant, *pul*, a gate. A sculptured image of an elephant with two drivers (*fil-ban*) stands at the out-going (*chigish*) of this Gate; it is exactly like an elephant; from it the gate is called *Hati-pul*. A window in the lowest storey where the building has four, looks towards this elephant and gives a near view of it. The cupolas which have been mentioned above are themselves the topmost stage (*murtaba*) of the Building; the sitting rooms are on the second storey (*tabaqat*), in a hollow even; they are rather airless places although Hindustani pains have been taken with them. The buildings of Man Singh's son Bikramajit are in a central position (*auria da*) on the north side of the fort. The son's buildings do not match the father's. He has made a great dome, dark but growing lighter if one stays a while in it. Under it is a smaller building into which no light comes from any side. When Rahim-dad settled down in Bikramajit's buildings, he made a rather small hall (*kichikraq talarghina*) on the top of this dome. From Bikramajit's buildings a road has been made to his father's, a road such that nothing is seen of it from outside and nothing known of it inside, a quiet enclosed road."<sup>1</sup>

It is recorded that Humayun came to Gwalior with his seraglio and stayed there for two months (February and March in 1533). He organised a series of grand Durbars and got himself weighed in scales against coins. According to Khondamir, while at Gwalior he conceived the project of founding a new city, and subsequently the foundations of Dinpanah were laid at Delhi.<sup>2</sup> He paid a second visit to Gwalior for a brief period, November-December 1534, with the object of making a demonstration of strength against Bahadur Shah who was busy with the siege of Chitor.

On the succession to power of Sher Shah Sur the fort was invested in 1540 by his general Shujaat Khan. The Mughul commander, Abdul Qasim Beg, refused to surrender till Sher Shah himself appeared on the scene (April 1542). The

1. Babur-nama, Tr. by Beveridge, Vol. II, pp. 607-10.

2. Elliot and Dowson, History of India as told by its own Historians, Vol. V, pp. 124-25.



Sur Emperor used it as an important stronghold and kept a force of 1,000 *lagfandars* or matchlockmen stationed here.

In 1545 his son Jalal Khan assumed power under the title of Islam Shah. After the seizure of Chunar, he transferred its treasures to Gwalior, which henceforth practically became the capital of the empire till the extinction of the dynasty.<sup>1</sup> In November 1554, Islam Shah died suddenly in the fort and his son Firuz, a child of twelve, was crowned there three days later, but was soon after murdered by Mubariz Khan who mounted the throne as Adil Shah. He shifted his residential capital to Chunar, and Gwalior was left in the care of Bhil Khan till 1559. Akbar made this district over to Qiya Khan Gung and instructed him to take possession of it. Bhil Khan invited Ram Shah, the son of Tomara chief Vikramaditya, whose ancestors once ruled there.<sup>2</sup> His designs, however, frustrated by the arrival of Qiya Khan Gung who, after encountering some resistance, annexed it to the Mughul Empire.<sup>3</sup>

It is interesting here to review what happened to the last of the Tomaras. Ram Shah fled to Udaipur and was the only Rajput chief who escaped alive from the sack of Chitor by Akbar in 1568. He had three sons Salivahan, (who married a Sisodia princess) Bhawani Singh and Pratap Singh. Salivahan's sons, Syam Shah and Mitra Sena, enrolled themselves in the Mughul army, the latter being governor of Rohtas fort. In about 1670 Sangram Shah, Syam Shah's son, assumed the nominal title of Raja of Gwalior. His son Raja Kishan Singh died about 1710, leaving two sons Bijai Singh and Hari Singh. The last chief of this line Bijai Singh died at Udaipur in 1781, where his descendants continued to live.<sup>4</sup>

From its capture by Akbar till about the middle of 1754 Gwalior and its fort remained a part of the Mughul possessions. Under the administrative reorganisation effected by Akbar in 1579-80, the region adjoining Gwalior was included in the *Subah* of Agra, and Gwalior became the chief town of one of its *Sarkars*. The *Sarkar* of Gwalior contained 13 *Mahals*, some of them being, Anhon, Badrhattah, Chinaur, Jhaloda (Jakhoda), Dandroli, Sirseni (Sirsi), Samauli (Silauli), Sarbandah, Alapur, Gwalior and Khatoli. The number of *Mahals* in the Gwalior *Sarkar* rose to 23 by 1720. According to *Ain-i-*

1. Elliot and Dowson, *History of India as told by its own Historians*, Vol. V, p. 167.

2. Akbarnama, Tr. by Beveridge, Vol. II, p. 88. Blochmann has also (*Ain*, Vol. I, p. 343) spelt it thus. Text has Bahabal. Ferishta callshim Suhail. Also see Elliot and Dowson, *History of India*, Vol. V, p. 166 and note.

3. Akbarnama, Tr. by Beveridge, Vol. II, pp. 88 and 118.

4. Cunningham, *Archaeological Survey Report*, Vol. II, pp. 394-95; G. C. Ojha, *Udaipur Rajya Ka Itihas*, pp. 420, 431 and 440.

The services of the Tomaras of Gwalior were recognized by Rajputs. An inscription on a Chhatri outside the village Khamnor near Udaipur is dated in the Vikrama year 1851 and refers to the erection of the Chhatri by Maharana Karnasingh of Udaipur, in honour of Salivahan, son of Raja Ram Shah of Gwalior, who died in the famous battle of Haldighati. (*Indian Archaeological—A Review*, 1955-56, pp. 31-32).



*Akbari*, there was an iron mine too in the Gwalior *Sarkar*, and Gwalior town was the site of State mint issuing copper coins.<sup>1</sup>

The fort itself was used as a State prison, a kind of Bastille by the Mughuls, where princes and chieftains who happened to earn the displeasure or rouse the suspicions of the monarch were incarcerated. Here was interned Prince Khusrau, the eldest son of Jahangir; here too languished Murad<sup>2</sup>, the brother of Aurangzeb. Among the other Mughul princes who found a living tomb here was Sulaiman Shikoh, the eldest son of Dara Shikoh, whom Manucci credits with "all the gifts of nature."<sup>3</sup> Here too was imprisoned, and later put to death, Prince Muhammad, son of Aurangzeb whom he suspected of disloyalty. It is said that the Sikh Guru, Har Govind, was kept prisoner here during Emperor Jahangir's reign for many years, but was later released.<sup>4</sup>

Gwalior continued to be one of the important *Sarkars* of the *Subah* of Agra even after Aurangzeb's death, but the Mughul hold became progressively enfeebled as a result of the weakness and dissensions at Delhi and the increasing pressure of the Marathas from the Deccan. After the defeat and death of Girdhar Bahadur, the Governor of Malwa, at Amjhera (November 29, 1728), the administration of the *Subah* of Malwa broke down and in spite of all efforts of the succeeding governors of Malwa the factual power passed into the hands of the various generals of the Peshwa. Of these Maratha generals, Ranoji Sindhia, who was rising rapidly in the esteem of the Peshwa, was granted an equal share with Holkar in the dues realised in Malwa. On November 2, 1731, the Peshwa formally entrusted the affairs of Malwa to Sindhia and Holkar, and gave them the seals of office.

From this vantage point in Malwa the Maratha army fanned out into Rajasthan, Bundelkhand and even up to Delhi. Even a change of the Governor of Agra failed to stem the rising Maratha tide. The situation worsened further after the invasion of Nadir Shah in 1739; the break-down of the Mughul power was complete; and Malwa was finally ceded to Peshwa Balaji Rao in 1741. The *Sarkar* of Gwalior which lay on the highway to the north, was at the mercy of the Maratha forces which often passed through it, to and from Delhi and the Punjab. The fort of Gwalior, however, continued to be held by a Mughul *Killedar*. Hence, early in 1754, Vitthal Rao Shiv Dev Vinchurkar invested it, but the Mughul *killedar* surrendered it to Rana Bhim Singh of Gohad instead. In the following year, on June 7, 1755, when the Maratha army was returning from Delhi after one of its periodic expeditions,

1. *Ain-i-Akbari*, Tr. by Jarett., Vol. II, pp. 192, 198; *Ain-i-Akbari*, Tr. by Blochmann, Vol. I, p. 32.

2. Bernier's *Travels in the Moghul Empire*, Tr. by Constable and Smith, pp. 107-08.

3. *Storia Do Mogor*, Tr. by W. Irvine, Vol. I, p. 380.

4. J. D. Cunningham, *A History of the Sikhs*, p. 57. According to *Siyar-ul-Mutakhirin* (Brigg's Trans., p. 112), the Sikh Guru Teg Bahadur was kept prisoner and beheaded in Gwalior under Aurangzeb's order. But this statement is not corroborated by any other authority. According to the Sikh sources Teg Bahadur was beheaded in Delhi. See J. D. Cunningham, *A History of the Sikhs*, p. 65.



Raghunath Rao, who led the army, attacked the fort of Gwalior and captured it from the Rana of Gohad.<sup>1</sup>

Ranoji Sindhia had, in the meanwhile, died in 1745 at Shujalpur where his memorial stands, and he had been succeeded by Jayappa. It was, however, under Mahadji Sindhia that the expansion of Maratha power in this area was pressed forward most energetically.

The eventful contest at Panipat in 1761 caused a great set-back to the Maratha supremacy in the north. But from the field of battle had escaped Mahadji Sindhia helped by a fortunate accident,\* and he was able to persuade the Peshwa to recognise his succession to the powers of the Sindhia in Malwa, and to confirm him in his patrimony. One of the first tasks of Mahadji was to retake the fort of Gwalior which had been seized by Lokendra Singh, the Jat chief of Gohad, during the confusion that followed the battle of Panipat. In this he succeeded in the year 1765, and thence began the historic association of Gwalior and its environs with the House of Sindhias.

By now the English had entered the arena in their bid for political power in Central India, where they had to reckon with the Maratha armies. The campaigns of 1775-1782 made it clear, as indeed General Goddard reported to Warren Hastings, that unless Sindhia's power in Malwa was crippled, the war with the Peshwa in the western India would not come to an end. It was partly to achieve this that Hastings despatched a force under Captain Popham to support the Rana of Gohad's attempt to capture the fort of Gwalior. The intrepid adventure of Popham and his men who succeeded in scaling the precipitous walls of the fort and capturing it by storm is one of the dramatic episodes of this period. Giving an account of this feat, Jonathan Scott,<sup>2</sup> who was the Persian interpreter of Popham, says:—

"On the 3rd August, in the evening, a party was ordered to be in readiness to march under the command of Captain William Bruce; and Popham put himself at the head of two battalions, which were immediately to follow the storming party. To prevent as much as possible any noise, in approaching or ascending the rock, a kind of shoes of woollen cloth were made for the sepoy, and stuffed with cotton. At 11 o'clock, the whole detachment marched from the camp at Reypour eight miles from Gwalior, through unfrequented paths, and reached it a little before day break. Just as Captain

1. Shindeshahi Itihasanchi Sadhanen, Ed. by A. B. Phalke, Vol. III, letter Nos. 264, 268, 312; Raghubir Singh, *Malwa in Transition*, p. 301.

\*Mahadji was wounded on the battle field which made him lame for life. His escape from the battle field was made possible through the help rendered by a muslim water-carrier Rane Khan by name, who conveyed him along with his water skins to a place of safety. In gratitude for this act, Mahadji rewarded him with a jagir which the descendants of Rane Khan held till recently. Mahadji always called him 'Bhai', a title confirmed by the emperor of Delhi. Rane Khan was killed at Bharatpur in June 1788. The family had the surname of Khawasiwale derived from the special privilege of sitting behind the Maharaja's (howdah) at the State ceremonials.

2. *East India Military Calendar*, 1823, Vol. II, p. 93.



Bruce arrived at the foot of the rock, he saw the lights which accompanied the rounds moving along the rampart, and heard the sentinels cough (the mode of signifying that all is well in an Indian camp or garrison), which might have damped the spirits of many men, but served only to inspire him with more confidence, as the moment for action, that is, the interval between the passing of the rounds, was now ascertained. Accordingly, when the lights were gone, the wooden ladders were placed against the rock, and one of the robbers first mounted, and returned with an account that the guard were retired to rest. Lieutenant Cameron, our Engineer, next mounted, and tied a rope ladder to the battlements of the wall, this kind of ladder being the only one adapted to the purpose of scaling the wall in a body, the wooden ones only serving to ascend from crag to crag of the rock, and to assist in fixing the rope ladder. When all this was ready, Captain Bruce, with 20 sepoy grenadiers, ascended without being discovered, and squatted down under the parapet; but before a reinforcement arrived three of the party had so little recollection, as to fire on some of the garrison who happened to be lying asleep near them. This had nearly ruined the whole plan; the garrison were of course alarmed, and ran in great numbers towards the place; but ignorant of the strength of the assailants (as the men fired on had been killed outright), they suffered themselves to be stopped by the warm fire kept up by the small party of grenadiers, until Major Popham himself, with a considerable reinforcement, came to their aid. The garrison then retreated to the inner buildings and discharged a few rockets, but soon afterwards retreated precipitately through the gate, whilst the principal officers, thus deserted, assembled together in one house, and hung out a white flag. Major Popham sent an officer to give them assurance of quarter and protection; and thus, in the space of two hours, this important and astonishing fortress was completely in our possession.”\*

The great satisfaction that this achievement caused to Warren Hastings is an indication of the importance he attached to his possessing this strategic fort. Hastings wrote to Sullivan in the Board of Control on the 27th August 1780 :—

“I look upon it as one of the best concerted and most gallant enterprises that has ever been performed in India, nearly if not equal, in its advantages to the battle of Plassey..... The advantages which will result from it are obvious; it is the key of Indostan.”<sup>1</sup>

From this reverse Mahadji, soon recovered and a kind of temporary truce was effected on 13th October 1781 between Colonel Muir and Sindhia. By the treaty of Salbye (17th May, 1782), Mahadji got back all his territory except the fort of Gwalior which remained in the possession of the Rana of Gohad. The

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\*There was an amusing sequel to this. Many years after when Popham who had by then become a Major-General was about to retire and return to England, the cost of the shoes supplied to the sepoys for the escalade was deducted from his pay. See Indian Historical Records Commission, Vol. XII, 1929, pp. 18-22 and 49-54.

1. Gleig Warren Hastings, Vol. II, p. 311.



loss of the Gwalior fort, however, continued to be a matter of deep mortification to Mahadji who ultimately succeeded in capturing it on 27th July 1783, and he so crippled the Rana that he surrendered Gohad also on 26th February 1784.

This being achieved, Mahadji was now free to turn his attention towards Delhi. The military ascendancy that he enjoyed at this time was not a little due to the services of a French soldier of fortune, Benoit de Boigne, who trained and disciplined the Sindhia army. After he entered Sindhia's service, he raised the army into a well-equipped and highly trained force of 18,000 regular and 6,000 irregular infantry and 2,000 irregular and 600 Persian horses with 200 cannons. Aided by such a force, Mahadji plunged into the vortex of intrigues at Delhi between the Rohillas and Shah Alam. Taking the side of Shah Alam Mahadji got himself invited to be the arbiter amidst the contending factions and met the Emperor near Fatehpur Sikri in October 1784 and proceeded thence to Delhi. In gratitude the Emperor bestowed full powers of *Vakil-i-Mutlak* or plenipotentiary Regent on the Maratha chieftain.

One of the first tasks of Mahadji in his new role was to quell the resentful Rajputs who did not relish the greatness acquired by the Maratha General. Thus when the ruler of Jaipur, Pratap Singh, refused to pay the tribute, Mahadji had to take military action and a fierce battle was fought at Tunga near Lalsot on 28th July 1787. Meanwhile the predicament of the Emperor Shah Alam became worse. The brutal adventurer, Ghulam Qadir, seized the person of the Emperor and perpetrated inhuman atrocities on him, and finally blinded the miserable emperor. Mahadji advanced on the capital and succeeded in rescuing Shah Alam and reinstating him with pomp and show, which, in the circumstances, was pathetic.

Having thus placed his dominions in the north in reasonable security, Mahadji decided to proceed to Poona, ostensibly to present the Peshwa with the insignia of Vice-Regent conferred by the Emperor, but in fact to out-wit and over-awe his Maratha rivals. He organised the investiture on the Peshwa with much pomp and ceremony. While at Poona, Mahadji heard of the decisive victories his army had gained over Tukoji Holkar at Lakheri (1st June 1793) and over Ismail Beg. Thus all the Northern and Central Indian territories acknowledged his sway, and supreme power appeared almost within his grasp. But even at this exultant moment death lay its hand upon him. He died of a fever at Wanavdi, near Poona, on the 12th February, 1794.

Mahadji was the architect of Maratha power in Central and Northern India. His political sagacity and military genius won the admiration and regard of Warren Hastings. The consolidation of the Maratha power and, in particular, the firm establishment of the dominion of the Sindhias were his achievements. But it was his successor, Daulat Rao Sindhia, who made Gwalior the capital of this dominion.

Mahadji died without leaving a son to succeed him. He had, however, expressed a desire before his death that Daulat Rao, the son of Anand Rao,



should succeed him, although he had never been formally adopted. Anand Rao was the son of Mahadji's brother, Tukoji.

The period following Daulat Rao's (1794-1827) accession is a continuous story of his fight against the forces of Nizam, Holkar and the British. It culminated in the defeat of the Sindhia army at Laswari (November 1802) and the signing of the treaty of Surji Anjangaon (30th December, 1803) by which Daulat Rao ceded all his territories lying between the Jamuna-Ganges Doab, parts of Bundelkhand, Gujarat, Ahmadnagar and the Ajanta region upto Godavari. When the list of places to be surrendered was presented four months after the signing of the treaty, Daulat Rao was mortified to find the fortress of Gwalior included in it. He at once represented the matter and his representation found support from General Wellesley and Colonel Malcolm, then acting Resident with Sindhia. The former affirmed that Daulat Rao had subscribed the treaty on the distinct understanding that Gwalior would remain with him, and that its cession and the declaration of the independence of the Rana of Gohad were due to a misunderstanding. With regard to Gwalior, General Wellesley wrote to Malcolm :

"I would sacrifice Gwalior, or every frontier of India, ten times over, in order to preserve our credit for scrupulous good faith and the advantages and honour we gained by the late war and the peace; and we must not fritter them away in arguments drawn from overstrained principles of the laws of nations which are not understood in this country. What brought me through many difficulties in the war, and the negotiations for peace?—The British good faith, and nothing else."<sup>1</sup>

But the Governor-General remained obdurate. Even Major Malcolm's pleadings on the subject bore no fruit.

The Maharaja did not forget this unjust act, and the loss of Gwalior always rankled in his mind. Two years later, on 18th October 1804, he addressed a letter to the British Government, which clearly expresses his pent-up feelings. Daulat Rao also tried to counteract this injustice by organising an anti-British coalition with the help of other chieftains. This incensed the Governor-General who thought that "Sindhia must not be permitted to retain the rights and privileges of an independent State; nor any privileges to an extent that might, at a future time, enable him to injure the British or their allies, and that the British Government must secure the arrangement by establishing a direct control over the acts of his Government, experience having sufficiently manifested, that it was in vain to place any reliance on the faith, justice, sincerity, gratitude or honour of that chieftain."<sup>2</sup> The war clouds started gathering but the hostilities were averted by the recall of Wellesley. His successor Cornwallis at once reversed the aggressive policy of his predecessor. Sindhia's newly appointed minister, Ambaji Ingle, took advantage of these changes and

1. Despatches of the Marquess of Wellesley (in India), 1836, Vol. III, p. 151.

2. Quoted by S. N. Roy in "History of the Native States of India", Vol. I, p. 318.



adopted a pacificatory policy which resulted in the conclusion of a treaty on November 22nd, 1805, whereby Gwalior and Gohad were restored to Sindhia.<sup>1</sup>

In 1810 Daulat Rao pitched his standing camp near Gwalior on a spot still called Lashkar, or the camp, which gradually developed into the chief town, superseding the former capital of Ujjain.

In 1813 Lord Hastings became Governor-General. He enunciated a policy for putting down the Pindari menace and establishing the unquestioned supremacy of British rule. He invited all the chiefs to join him in the war against Pindaris and declared that those who did not cooperate would be treated as enemies. Daulat Rao temporized for a time, but later signed a fresh treaty of Gwalior on 5th November, 1817, promising full cooperation.<sup>2</sup> In 1818 another treaty was concluded by which a re-adjustment of boundaries was effected.<sup>3</sup> Ajmer and other lands being exchanged for territory round Gwalior, Narwar Shivpuri and certain Malwa tracts. Though modified from time to time in certain respects, Gwalior territory remained substantially the same from this time onwards.

Daulat Rao died on March 21st, 1827, leaving no son. His nearest kinsman, Mugat Rao, a youth of eleven, was adopted and placed on the throne with the title of 'Alijah Jankoji Rao Sindhia'.

The regency was entrusted to Baiza Bai, Daulat Rao's ambitious widow, who desired to act as Regent not only during the minority of the Maharaja but throughout her life time. Though the verdict of some historians had been otherwise, there is reason to believe that her rule was firm, able and just. The country seemed to be prosperous and flourishing. She was a woman of high spirits and during her time the affairs of Gwalior were conducted with as much efficiency as those of any other principality.<sup>4</sup>

Her treatment to Jankoji (1827-1843) was harsh. She kept the prince under restraint, excluded his name from the State seal and intrigued to remain Regent for life. The Maharaja vehemently complained against her ill treatment and even suspected her of designing to adopt a kinsman of her own as successor to the throne. In October, 1832, unable to bear her thralldom, the prince suddenly fled to the Resident, who then interposed and a truce was patched up. In December 1832 Lord Bentinck visited Gwalior and both sides urged their claims. The Governor-General, however, was reticent and would not indicate more than that Jankoji would be supported by the British as the future ruler of Gwalior.

In an atmosphere of suspicion and tortuous intrigues the affairs drifted towards utter chaos, and the young chief again fled for protection to the Resi-

1. Treaties and Engagements, Grants, Titles, Agreements and Loans, etc., Gwalior State (1905), pp. 18-25.

2. *ibid*, pp. 27-34.

3. *ibid*, pp. 33-34.

4. T. Wheeler, Summary of the affairs of the Maratha States, p. 257.



dent. The incident was the signal for general out-break against the regency of Baiza Bai, and she in her turn was obliged to seek refuge in the Residency. Baiza Bai was soon after expelled from Gwalior territory and Jankoji granted administrative powers. Jankoji was a weak ruler and utterly unable to control his turbulent army, or put an end to the feuds and intrigues of his court. The miserable condition of the State in 1835 and the hardship and privations suffered by the people are graphically depicted by Colonel Sleeman<sup>1</sup> who eight years later became Resident.

On 7th February 1843, Jankoji Rao died. Like his two predecessors he left no heirs. His widow Tara Bai, herself only thirteen, adopted a boy of eight, by name Bhagirath Rao, the son of Hanwant Rao Sindhia, who succeeded as Jayaji Rao (1843-1886). The fact that the widow and the adopted prince were both very young left the court open to gross intrigues.<sup>2</sup> In the struggle for power a faction led by Dada Khasgiwala, the Comptroller of the Household managed to bring about the downfall of Mama Saheb, formerly the minister of Jankoji Rao, but not before the Mama Saheb's daughter was precipitately got married to the young ruler. As days passed, court intrigues multiplied and the army, some 30,000 strong, became all powerful. The Dada, in order to consolidate his power, concentrated at Gwalior his whole army and eliminated officers who were considered to incline towards the British.<sup>3</sup> These happenings alarmed the British authorities, and Lord Ellenborough tried to make political capital out of them. He decided to interfere in Gwalior affairs, especially because it was highly dangerous to have a hostile force in the rear when war was impending in the Punjab.<sup>4</sup>

In August, 1843, Ellenborough ordered the Commander-in-Chief Sir Hugh Gough to prepare for a march on Gwalior at short notice. Colonel Sleeman, who had become Resident at Gwalior, moved to Dholpur.<sup>5</sup> Upon the Maharani's refusal to remove the minister Dada Khasgiwala from the State, the British force advanced towards Gwalior. On hearing of this the Dada was expelled and made over to the Resident, but this did not now satisfy Ellenborough, who wanted to break up the military power of Gwalior. He informed the Maharani that the movement of the British could not be arrested until the Governor-General had full security for the future maintenance of tranquility upon the common frontier. He was, however, willing to settle all disputes at a personal interview with the Maharani. The interview was fixed on 26 December at Hingona, a place situated within the Gwalior territory. The Maharani disapproved of this proposal on the ground that if the British army crossed the

1. *Rambles and Recollections*, Ed. by Smith., pp. 258-70, 292, 294, 299.

2. *The Calcutta Review*, Vol. I, p. 535.

3. Letter from Resident of Gwalior to Tara Bai of Gwalior, dated October 13, 1843. Further Papers respecting Gwalior presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty, April 1844, No. 103, p. 84.

4. Minute by the Governor-General of India, Fort William, November 1, 1843. Further papers respecting Gwalior etc., No. 115 pp. 99-102.

5. *Ibid*, Enclosures Nos. 124 and 125, pp. 118-19.



State frontier before the interview, it would be impossible to restrain the troops, as it would be considered as a hostile act. Colonel Sleeman wrote in similar terms but the Governor-General refused to alter his plans.<sup>1</sup> The leaders of Gwalior army were determined to face the hostile forces and did not let the Maharani and the prince leave Gwalior.<sup>2</sup> Sindhia's army took up a strong position, and when on 29th December, the British force reached Maharajpur, they were greeted with a volley of shots from a masked battery.

The engagement soon became general. The State force fought with dogged determination but were defeated in two simultaneous battles at Maharajpur and Panniar. According to some accounts the defeat was due to the treacherous role played by Colonels Baptiste and Jacob who supplied coloured *bajri* flour in bags.<sup>3</sup> The gallantry of the vanquished has been praised by Sir Gough in his despatch.<sup>4</sup>

The power of Sindhia was now broken. He accepted all terms dictated by the victor by which the administration was entrusted to a Council of Regency which was to act upon the advice of the Resident. The contingent force was re-organised and fixed at 10,000 men, forming a compact force of all arms commanded by British officers. For the maintenance of the contingent force, territory yielding a revenue of rupees 18 lakhs a year was ceded to the British. The Gwalior army was reduced to 6,000 cavalry, 3,000 infantry and 200 gunners with 32 guns. The next 12 years were uneventful. In January 1853 the chief was granted powers of administration. About the same date Dinkar Rao, one of the ablest administrators of the State, became minister. Under his guidance the State made rapid strides in progress and prosperity. Revenue matters received his attention first. For the purpose of management, the Diwan divided the territory into three divisions, Malwa, Esagarh, and Gwalior, and appointed, in each of them, a Sar Suba, who was assisted by other officers. He prepared a comprehensive revenue code called *Dastur-ul-amal*. The mode of revenue collection was also changed. So far the State had farmed out areas to *Ijaredars* collection was also changed. So far the State had farmed out areas to *Ijaredars* the peasantry to exorbitant exactions by revenue collectors. The energetic Diwan abolished this practice and introduced more or less a *ryotwari* system. These reforms were bitterly opposed by certain vested interests. To Dinkar Rao is also attributed the credit of having encouraged education, and laid foundation of a modern judicial system in the State.<sup>5</sup>

Jayaji Rao was still a young man of 23 years when the rising of 1857 occurred and it was a question of supreme importance to the fate of the revolt what attitude he would adopt. As it transpired, Sindhia decided to remain loyal to his British allies. While several reasons may have prompted him to adopt this

1. Further Papers respecting Gwalior etc., No. 150, p. 150.

2. *Ibid*, Paper No. 155, pp. 154-55.

3. Office of the History of the Freedom Movement in India, M.B. State Committee, Northern Division, Gwalior, File No. 16/55, p. 11.

4. Further Papers respecting Gwalior etc., No. 162, pp. 158, 162.

5. M. W. Burwag, Life of Sir Dinkar Rao, pp. 50-55.



course, the posture of events as they stood, and the influence of the Resident and the Diwan led the Maharaja to keep aloof from the upsurge that swept over the northern parts of the country. Major Charters Macpherson, the Resident, impressed upon him that the British arms would triumph in the end. In this he was ably supported by the Diwan Dinkar Rao Rajwade, who had no love for the rebel's cause. Besides, Dinkar Rao had incurred the enmity of a number of nobles, who looked upon his rise with fear and suspicion. Self-interest thus was a further reason that prompted the minister to side with the British in the hour of their adversity.

When mutiny broke out, the Gwalior contingent was stationed at Gwalior, under Brigadier Ramsay, with out-posts at Shivpuri and Agra. It consisted of 8318 men, four field batteries, two regiments of cavalry and seven of infantry and a small siege train. The sepoy rose in arms on the night of 14th June, as soon as they heard of stirring events at Jhansi. Though there was indiscriminate slaughter of Englishmen, there were also a few notable instances of gallantry. Lieutenant Pearson was saved by his own men.<sup>1</sup> The honour of foreign women was fully respected, and they were allowed to go unharmed. The Political Agent and a few others with him escaped under the cover of night and took shelter in the Phoolbagh palace. They were later escorted by the Maharaja's own body-guards upto Chambal, from where they were protected by the friendly Thakur Baldeo Singh\* and the Raja of Dholpur. The mutiny was not confined to Gwalior and it soon spread to the out-stations of the State. The sepoys posted at military stations outside Gwalior marched off to Kalpi. As for the men at Gwalior, Major Macpherson had told the Maharaja to see that they were kept in the precincts of the town as long as possible. The Maharaja, accordingly, enrolled them in his service and by vague promises of himself leading them later managed to keep the men quiescent at Gwalior.<sup>2</sup> Thus it happened that when Indore men marched against Agra, the men of Gwalior did not join them. When the Oudh rebels besieged Kanpur, they did not move to help them. Had they joined the besieging sepoys at Kanpur, or engaged in guerilla activities in the country around, the rebel cause would probably have prospered better. But it was only in November 1857 that they threw in their lot with the others and moved towards Kalpi. This was largely due to Tatya Tope who had visited Gwalior *incognito*, after the battle of Koonch.<sup>3</sup> He took advantage of the vacillating mood of the men at Gwalior, and persuaded them to shake off their indecision

1. Forrest, History of the Indian Mutiny, Vol. III, pp. 48-51.

\* The services of Baldeo Singh, a Dandotya Thakur of Kalyani, were amply rewarded both by the British and the Gwalior Durbar. He received a grant of land in British territory and a Jagir from Sindhia; and 100 of his followers under the command of Gopal Singh, his brother, were selected to form a troop in a cavalry regiment, known during the mutiny as 'Meade's Horse'.

2. William Muir, Indian Mutiny 1857, N. W. P. Intelligence Records, Vol. 1, pp. 4, 44, 80, etc.

3. Forrest, History of the Indian Mutiny, Vol. III, p. 263; also Selections from letters Despatches, and other State Papers preserved in the Military Department of the Government of India, 1857-58, Vol. IV, p. XCII.



and march towards Kalpi. They were 5,000 strong and had a good train of artillery. On the 19th November they reached Kalpi and placed themselves under Tatya's command.

Meanwhile Sir Hugh Rose had inflicted a defeat on the combined forces of Rao Saheb and the Rani of Jhansi in the battle of Golauli on May 22, 1858. Both fled to Gopalpur, about 46 miles south-west of Gwalior, where they were joined by Tatya. Here they planned the seizure of Gwalior in order to retrieve their waning fortunes. The rebels had no resources to carry out the task in the ordinary way. There is a local song current on how the Rani of Jhansi raised her army of liberation, how out of the ordinary clay of the common people, she made brave soldiers, and how out of "nothing" she equipped them

From clay and stones

She moulded her army.

From mere wood

She made swords.

And the mountain she transformed into a steed.

Thus she marched to Gwalior.

The mutineers met with some feeble resistance on the Gwalior frontier and encamped at Burragaon on May 31st. They demanded a passage through Gwalior territories but Sindhia demurred. His policy was to gain time. He knew that the crisis was sure to come but the longer it was delayed the stronger would be his chance of getting the promised succour. Dinkar Rao was also against a precipitate action. But Sindhia was misled by a trusted officer who told him that the rebel army was in a disorganised state and could be dispersed in one resolute attempt. Next day, June 1, Sindhia marched against the mutineers at the head of his army comprising 7,000 infantry, about 4,000 cavalry, his own body-guards 800 strong and 12 guns. But the men apparently had no heart in the engagement. The result was a foregone conclusion. The sepoys made a feint of charging but did not fight. What followed is thus described: "As they (rebels) approached, Sindhia's eight guns opened on them. But the smoke of the discharge had scarcely disappeared when the rebel skirmishers closed to their flanks, and two thousand horsemen, charging at a gallop, carried the guns. Simultaneously with their charge, Sindhia's infantry and cavalry, his bodyguard alone excepted, either joined the rebels or took up a position indicative of their intention not to fight."<sup>1</sup> The Maharaja and his Diwan Dinkar Rao fled precipitately to Agra. His nobles followed them in rapid succession. The Ranis led by Baiza Bai took asylum in the fortress of Narwar.

The victors entered Gwalior in triumph and began to organise a regular Government. They refrained from all acts of violence. Nana Saheb was proclaimed as Peshwa and Rao Saheb deputed for him as Viceroy. There were rejoicings and feeding of Brahmins. Rich rewards were distributed to army, alike to the Gwalior troops as to those who had come from outside. Ram Rao Govind, one of the Sindhia's disgraced courtiers, was appointed the Prime

1. Kaye and Malleon, History of the Indian Mutiny, Vol. III, p. 209.



Minister.<sup>1</sup> Four Maratha Chiefs, who had been imprisoned by the Maharaja for insubordination, were restored to their former position. Rao Sahib maintained *status quo* in administration and confirmed all the principal military and civil officers in their former posts. Amarchand Banthia, the Sindhia's treasurer, gave all the money that the new chief required for payment of troops. Messages were also sent to other rebel leaders, notably to Rajas of Banpur and Shahgarh, to cooperate with the new Government.<sup>2</sup>

The fall of Gwalior took the British by surprise. They were aware of the gravity of the event, of the importance of their prestige, and of retrieving the position quickly. Besides, the rains were due shortly and the region would soon turn into a swamp making troop movement almost impossible. Sir Hugh Rose acted promptly. He split his forces into four columns, himself leading one of them, and ordered them to advance on Gwalior from four directions. By the 16th June Sir Hugh Rose reached within five miles of Morar, and without allowing any rest for his men, attacked the insurgent forces. After a desperate fight the British troops succeeded in occupying the cantonment of Morar. The following day Brigadier Smith moved his contingent from Kotah-ki-Sarai and advanced to the south-east of the fort where he was later joined by Rose and his men. Here they were met with stern resistance by the sepoys led by the heroic Rani of Jhansi herself\*. In the fierce engagement that ensued, the brave Rani was mortally wounded. The manner of her death is described by a contemporary writer, Bhavani Prasad, Vakil of the Begum of Bhopal, attached to the camp of Sir Robert Hamilton, Political Agent in Central India. In his despatch dated the 18th June 1858, Bhavani Prasad wrote: "Yesterday the Rani of Jhansi and the Nawab of Banda, both present at the entrenchment, were personally directing the bombardment against Major R's (Rose's) position. During the engagement that ensued, a shell from Major R's battery blew off an arm of the Nawab and another hit the Rani's chest which resulted in her death."<sup>3</sup> John Henry Sylvester, who was present at the battle and wrote an account of the Malwa campaign, records that "the gallant Queen of Jhansi fell from a carbine wound and was carried to the rear, where she expired, and was burned according

1. Kaye and Malleon, History of the Indian Mutiny, Vol. V, p. 147.

2. To Baiza Bai, Rao Sahib addressed two letters inviting her to take charge of the new Government. Baiza Bai, however, was too shrewd a lady, and sent both the letters to Sir Robert Hamilton. These letters have been quoted in full in Macphersons' Report dated the 20th June 1858 and one of them has been in printed in Forrest's History of the Indian Mutiny, Vol. III, pp. 265-66.

\*Pandit Vrindavan Lal Varma of Jhansi says that the Rani rode into the thick of the fight, wielding two long swords in each hand while she held the reins of her horse between her teeth. He cites Turab Ali as his authority for this feat, who was in the Police Service of the East India Company and was stationed at Jhansi. Turab Ali, who died in 1943 at the age of 115 years, is said to have told Shri Varma that he used to see Rani Laxmibai "practising the art of managing the horse with the reins between her teeth, and wielding two swords by her two hands".

3. The original document dated Friday, the 18th June 1858, was written at 2 p.m. at Morar Cantonment and is now preserved in the National Archives, Bhopal. See also Indian Archives, Vol. IX, No. I, January-June 1955.



to the custom of Hindoos."<sup>1</sup> When told of her death, Sir Hugh Rose paid tribute to the gallantry saying, "the Rani of Jhansi was the bravest and best military leader of the rebels".

With the death of the Rani of Jhansi the battle was practically over. The British stormed the fort and took it, but not before the last handful of defenders made a desperate stand and perished in the attempt. "Thirteen men, four of them contingent sepoy and nine Vilayuttees with two women and a child, after proceeding some miles from the vacated Fort towards Agra, resolved deliberately to return and die in it. They fired from the guns on the ramparts four and five shots at the troops drawn out to receive Sindhia, and, as he and the agent advanced with their cortege one shot struck immediately in front of them..... Lieut. Rose with a company of the 25th Bombay N.I. went with the aid of the City Kotwall and twenty Pathan Police to destroy these desperate men. They had flung over the walls, into the city, all their gold and silver coin, and other property, and taken post upon a bastion, a gun of which commanded the line of approach. That gun burst at the third discharge. Rose advanced. The fanatics slew their women and the child. Rose's party then killed seven of them; but one shot him mortally before the rest could be killed."<sup>2</sup>

One of the persons on whom dire punishment fell was Amarchand Banthia, the treasurer of Sindhia, who had handed over the treasury to the rebels. Banthia was hanged on a Neem tree in Sarafa Bazar, and his body was left hanging there for several days as a grim warning.<sup>3</sup> The Gwalior fort was hereafter garrisoned by the British who continued to hold the fort and Morar cantonment till 1886 when they were restored to Sindhia in exchange for Jhansi. The restoration of the Gwalior fort was made at a formal Durbar held by Lord Dufferin in the afternoon of the 2nd December 1885 at Gwalior. According to a *Kharita* dated the 24th February, 1886, Sindhia was, however, required to pay to the British Government rupees 15 lakhs on account of the expenditure incurred on the fortification and buildings in the fortress.

Jayaji Rao died in 1886 leaving his son Madhav Rao Sindhia, at that time a minor of 10 years of age, to succeed him. During the first eight years, till 1894, a Council of Regency was appointed to conduct the administration. During this period (1886-1894) a settlement and survey of the northern Gwalior was carried out by Colonel D. G. Pitcher, who built up a Land Records Department.<sup>4</sup> A revised Postal Convention was also signed between Gwalior and the Government of India in 1885.

1. J. Sylvester, *Recollections of the Campaign in Malwa and Central India*, p. 183.

2. Quoted in Surendra Nath Sen's 'Eighteen Fifty-Seven', p. 294; See also J. Sylvester's *Recollections of the Campaign in Malwa and Central India*, pp. 188-89.

3. Letter from Gangadhar Raoji to Shrinivas Govind, Mutiny Paper Bundle No. 2, Office of the Registrar, Historical Records, M. P., Gwalior.

4. H. M. Bull and K. N. Haksar, *Madhav Rao Scindia of Gwalior*, p. 22.



In administration, the period saw the formation of the first municipality in the State in 1887 and of the first panchayat in 1912. Madhav Rao Sindhia was invested with ruling powers on December 15, 1894. The period of his rule is described as one of consolidation and steady progress. The State saw rapid economic development with the establishment of a number of industries and the execution of some large irrigation projects. To assist the administration two bodies, the *Majlis-i-Am* and the *Majlis-i-Kanoon* were constituted.<sup>1</sup> Maharaja Madhav Rao Sindhia was widely travelled\*, and brought to the task of administration something of the enlightened ideas he gathered in these travels. In April 1925 the Maharaja sailed for England, but he fell seriously ill at Paris, where he passed away on June 5.

He was succeeded by Maharaja Jiwaji Rao Sindhia who was then nine years of age. A Council of Regency, presided over by the Maharani, was set up to administer the State till the Maharaja came of age and was invested with full powers on November 2, 1936.

The history of the district after the accession of Maharaja Jiwaji Rao Sindhia is mainly the history of the administrative changes and political awakening which flowed from the larger political movements that stirred the country and culminated in the establishment of independence. The administrative reforms introduced by the ruler in Gwalior are described in detail in the appropriate chapters. The course of political awakening may be briefly traced here.

Though the Indian States were on the whole sedulously kept aloof from the current of political agitation that swept the British provinces of India, there were some reverberations of the Terrorist Movement of Bengal and the 1920-21 Non-Cooperation Movement which caused the authorities in Gwalior State to take repressive measures. But the demand for representative Government could not be put down. In 1929 an attempt was made to form a Praja Mandal and get it registered, but the State Government turned it down. The Sarvajanik Sabha of Ujjain, a social and cultural organisation, became more and more a platform for political activities. The issues on which political agitation in the British provinces raged were taken up here also. They agitated against the use of foreign goods. There was picketing of liquor shops. They raised the demand for civil liberties and responsible Government. All these activities received an impetus when, in the General Elections ordered in the British provinces under the 1935 Act, the Congress party swept the polls in six provinces.

The Indian National Congress also began to take an increasing interest in the unrest in the princely states. At the Haripura session of the Congress in

1. Report on the Administration of the Gwalior State, 1941-42, pp. 12-13.

\* Two Universities, Oxford and Edinburgh, conferred on him the degree of D.C.L. and LL.D., respectively, honours which interested him chiefly from the ceremonial employed on each occasion. It is doubtful if to the end of his life, the Maharaja was ever quite sure which of his academic honours was the gift of which University; but he always remembered that the Latin speech on his presentation at Oxford was longer than that which had been delivered at Cambridge in 1902" (H. M. Bull and K. N. Haksar, "Madhav Rao Scindia of Gwalior", pp. 161-62).



1938 they passed a resolution stressing that they stood for the same political, social and economic freedom in the States as in the rest of India, and that the States were an integral part of India. It was, however, left to the States' people themselves to work for their liberation. "The burden of carrying on the struggle for freedom must fall on the people of the States."

It was against this background that the Gwalior Government announced the reforms of June 1939.<sup>1</sup> The Proclamation announced that the *Majlis-i-Am* and *Majlis-i-Kanoon* would be replaced by a bicameral legislature to be known as the Praja Sabha and Samant Sabha (later renamed Raj Sabha), the former with a membership of 85 out of whom 50 were to be elected (later raised to 90 of whom 55 were elected), and the latter with a membership of 40 out of whom 20 were to be elected, the method of election for both houses being direct. These houses were given powers to ask questions and supplementaries, discuss the budget and also to initiate legislation. A Franchise Committee was also appointed for delimitation of constituencies in such manner that no section of the people was left unrepresented and the franchise was extended up to 20 per cent of the adult population. The Sarvajanik Sabha condemned these reforms as inadequate and decided to boycott the Franchise Committee. The reforms could not, however, be brought into force partly on account of the out-break of the Second World War in September 1939, and the term of the *Majlis-i-Am* and *Majlis-i-Kanoon* was extended from time to time until June, 1945.<sup>2</sup> However, "with a view to associating some non-official person from his subjects with the administration of the State," the Ruler appointed Shri Takhatmal Jain as Minister for three years from 11th November 1940, and placed him in charge of the newly created department of Rural Welfare and Local Self-Government.

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Meanwhile, at the second session of the Sarvajanik Sabha held at Lashkar in 1939 and inaugurated by Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramayya, they adopted a resolution demanding full responsible Government in the State. In 1946 the constitution of the Sabha was amended so as to conform to that of the Indian National Congress, the tricolour was accepted as its flag and the name of the Sarvajanik Sabha was changed to Gwalior State Congress.

The progress of the struggle that sprang from the "Quit India" Movement of 1942, is a part of recent national history, and need not be told here. The elections to the Praja Sabha and Raj Sabha were ultimately held in 1945 which brought the Members of the State Congress in a substantial majority into the legislature. The Raj Sabha and Praja Sabha constituted as a result of these elections were inaugurated by the Ruler on 14th April 1946. The inauguration of these reforms only helped to step up the demand for responsible Government. The climate of constitutional reform that was ushered in after the General Elections of 1946 prompted some of the Princely States to give a semblance of popular support to their administration. In Gwalior the Government decided to

1. Gwalior State Gazette (Extraordinary), dated the 14th June, 1939.

2. Report on the Administration of the Gwalior State, 1944-45, p. 3.



appoint five representatives of the State Congress as Members of the Executive Council which had a total strength of 11 Members.

Independence came on the 15th August 1947, but although Gwalior along with the other Princely States signed the Instrument of Accession transferring to the Government of India the three subjects of Defence, Communications and Foreign Affairs, the substance of responsible Government did not reach the people of the State. It, however, became increasingly clear to the discerning among the Princely Rulers that it was impossible to resist the rising tide of political consciousness. The demand for responsible Government could not be denied. The Gwalior Ruler accordingly made the historic declaration on the 13rd January 1948 granting responsible Government to the State, and a full-fledged Ministry was sworn in on the next day.

One of the first tasks that confronted the country after the attainment of Independence was to settle the future of the numerous Princely States—large and small that were embedded in the country. In regard to a few large states, like Gwalior or Indore, it might have been possible to treat them as viable units and introduce democratic Government in them. But the territories of these states interlaced into each other and surrounded a number of smaller states which did not have either the resources or machinery required for separate existence as democratic units. It was, therefore, decided that in the interest of administrative efficiency and geographical unity a single Union of States should be formed with Gwalior and Indore forming the major partners, and the other smaller states of Central India joining them. Accordingly, a conference of the Rulers of Central India was held at Delhi in April, 1948 at which it was decided that the 25 states and estates of Central India should be formed into a single Union, called the United State of Gwalior, Indore and Malwa, and named as Madhya Bharat. The Covenant establishing this Union provided that the present rulers of Gwalior and Indore shall be the Rajpramukh and the Senior Up Rajpramukh, respectively, and hold office during their life-time. It was laid down that there shall be a Council of Ministers chosen by the Rajpramukh to aid and advise him in the exercise of his functions. The Covenant was signed by all the rulers and the State of Madhya Bharat was inaugurated by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru on the 28th May, 1948. The district of Gwalior became one of the 16 districts into which the State was administratively divided.

The question of Gwalior continuing to be the capital of Madhya Bharat was tied up with the claims of Indore for a similar honour. In fact, for some period after the formation of Madhya Bharat, the controversy over the rival claims of Gwalior and Indore to be the capital of the State, constituted a matter for frequent agitation. As a compromise it was decided to locate the capital at Gwalior for seven months and at Indore for five months in the year. This practice continued till the reorganisation of the States on the 1st November 1956.

Since Gwalior was a seat of the Government of Madhya Bharat, it might be useful to give here a resume of the political events that followed the



formation of Madhya Bharat. The first Ministry led by Shri Liladhar Joshi took office on the 4th June 1948, and the first session of the Assembly was inaugurated by Sardar Vallabhabhai Patel on the 4th December 1948. The Liladhar Joshi Ministry held office for 11 months till the 4th May 1949, when it resigned, and a new Ministry was formed by Shri G. K. Vijayavargiya on the 10th May 1949. When this Ministry had been in office for about 17 months, it ran into difficulties within the party, and at a meeting of the Congress Assembly Party held at Indore on the 1st October 1950, Shri Vijayavargiya failed to get a majority in his support. Thereupon the party elected Shri Takhatmal Jain as its new leader and the Council of Ministers was reconstituted with Shri Takhatmal Jain as Chief Minister.

Following the results of the General Elections of 1952, Shri Takhatmal Jain tendered the resignation of his Ministry on the 11th February 1952. The Congress party members of the Legislative Assembly, however, re-elected him as leader on the 22nd February 1952, but until he could fight a bye-election and take his seat in the Assembly, Shri Mishrilal Gangwal, the Deputy leader of the party, was asked to form a Ministry, which he did on the 3rd March 1952. It was in February 1955 that Shri Takhatmal Jain was able to win a bye-election in Vidisha district. He was, thereafter, elected Party leader in the Assembly on the 2nd April 1955 and was later, shown in as Chief Minister. This Ministry continued in office till the 31st October 1956, when, consequent on the formation of the new Madhya Pradesh as a result of the reorganisation of States, a Ministry led by Pandit Ravi Shankar Shukla took office at Bhopal. Gwalior thereafter continued to be the headquarters of a Revenue division, and of the district of Gwalior.

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## CHAPTER III

### PEOPLE

#### POPULATION

Between the census years of 1901 and 1951, the population of Gwalior district increased by about a third. It was 3,93,738 in 1901, and it stood at 5,30,299 in the 1951 census. The break-up of the population according to tahsils during this period was:—

	1901	1911	1921	1931	1941	1951
Gwalior District .. ..	3,93,738	3,21,025	3,34,139	3,72,303	4,49,919	5,30,299
Gird .. ..	1,92,734	1,38,859	1,61,358	1,84,911	2,40,767	3,05,657
Pichhore .. ..	79,809	73,049	67,583	81,179	97,067	1,13,019
Ghatigaon .. ..	58,864	54,308	53,366	53,332	57,948	59,659
Bhander .. ..	62,331	54,809	51,832	52,881	54,137	51,964

In 1954 the tahsil boundaries in the district were redrawn reducing their number to three. Ghatigaon tahsil was abolished by merging the hilly region in the north with Gwalior (Gird) tahsil and the valley portion with Pichhore tahsil. After this rearrangement the distribution of population and area as shown in 1961 census is as follows:—

District/Tahsil (1)		Area in sq. miles (2)	No. of Villages (3)	Population		
				Persons (4)	Males (5)	Females (6)
Gwalior District .. ..	Total	2,015	843	6,57,876	3,53,813	3,04,063
	Rural ..			3,33,428	1,78,648	1,54,780
	Urban ..			3,24,448	1,75,165	1,49,283
Gird Tahsil .. ..	Total	1,039	351	4,24,729	2,29,905	1,94,824
	Rural ..			1,24,142	67,701	56,441
	Urban ..			3,00,587	1,62,204	1,38,383
Pichhore Tahsil .. ..	Total	724	333	1,69,633	90,817	78,816
	Rural ..			1,52,410	81,319	71,091
	Urban ..			17,223	9,498	7,725
Bhander Tahsil .. ..	Total	253	157	63,514	33,091	30,423
	Rural ..			56,876	29,628	27,248
	Urban ..			6,638	3,463	3,175

Source—Census 1961



According to the 1951 census, 599 villages or nearly 79 per cent of the villages in the district, had a population of 500 or less. Out of the remaining villages, 112 villages fall in the range of 500 to 1,000 inhabitants, and 39 villages come under the range of 1,000 to 2,000 population. Only eight villages have a population in the range of 2,000 to 5,000. Bhandar village in Bhandar tahsil, has the largest population, consisting of 4,767 persons, of whom 2,435 were males and 2,332 females. The smallest village in the district was Jaderua Khurd in Gird tahsil which had a population of only two persons. In area the largest village is Jakhoda which covers 19,577 acres, and the smallest in area is Kota-Viran which has 37 acres. Of the two towns\* in the district—Gwalior and Dabra—the former is by far the more populated and is in the category of class I towns (having a population of more than one lakh). According to the 1951 census the population in Gwalior city was 2,41,577, which is nearly 32 per cent above the population of the city recorded in the previous census of 1941. The other town, Dabra, falls in the category of class V towns, i.e., with a population in the range 5,000 to 10,000. In 1951 the population was enumerated to be 6,381. The density of population in the district has steadily risen from 1921 when it stood at 190 persons per square mile, which rose to 213 per square mile in 1931 census, and to 263 in 1941. The census of 1951 gave the district a density of 266 persons per square mile, as against a density of 152 per square mile for the whole State.

The table below gives the distribution of male and female population in the district according to the censuses of 1911 to 1951 :—

**Distribution of Male and Female Population**

District/Tahsil (1)	Sex (2)	1911 (3)	1921 (4)	1931 (5)	1941 (6)	1951 (7)
Gwalior District	Male	1,71,251 [53.42]	1,82,290 [54.45]	2,01,730 [54.13]	2,41,548 [53.68]	2,80,416 [52.87]
	Female	1,49,774 (875) [46.58]	1,51,849 (833) [45.55]	1,70,573 (846) [45.87]	2,08,371 (863) [46.32]	2,49,883 (891) [47.13]
Gird	Male	76,491 [55.08]	90,636 [56.25]	1,03,046 [55.72]	1,31,197 [54.49]	1,61,589 [52.86]
	Female	62,368 (815) [44.92]	70,722 (780) [43.75]	81,865 (794) [44.28]	1,09,570 (835) [45.51]	1,44,068 (891) [47.14]
Pichhore	Male	38,337 [52.53]	36,017 [53.29]	42,555 [52.42]	51,437 [52.99]	60,198 [53.27]
	Female	34,712 (905) [47.47]	31,566 (876) [46.71]	38,624 (908) [47.58]	45,630 (887) [47.01]	52,821 (877) [46.73]
Ghatigaon	Male	28,515 [52.50]	28,849 [54.05]	28,720 [53.85]	30,938 [53.38]	31,910 [53.48]
	Female	25,793 (904) [47.50]	24,517 (850) [45.95]	24,612 (857) [46.15]	27,010 (873) [46.62]	27,749 (870) [46.52]

\*According to the provisional Census figures 1961, there are four towns, which include Pichhore (4562) and Bhandar (6658) in addition to Gwalior and Dabra.



(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Bhander .. .. .	Male ..	27,908 [50.91]	26,788 [51.67]	27,409 [51.83]	27,976 [51.65]	26,719 [51.41]
	Female ..	26,901 (964) [49.09]	25,044 (935) [48.33]	25,472 (929) [48.17]	26,161 (935) [48.35]	25,245 (945) [48.59]

Note:—1. The figures in small brackets indicate females per 1000 males.

2. The figures in square brackets indicate percentages.

The age group analysis of a household sample during 1951 census is interesting. The percentage of the infants to the total population is 3.4, while persons in the age-group 1 to 20 take up 48.6 per cent of the population. Those belonging to the group of age 21 years and above form 47.9 per cent of the population. A sample of household studied during the 1951 census to ascertain the marital status of the population in the district reveals that 50 per cent of the total population are married and 41 per cent unmarried. The remaining nine per cent consists of widows, widowers or divorcees. A similar analysis of the composition of households showed that heads of households and their wives together account for 34.7 per cent of the household population, the sons (21.6) and daughters (16.1) of the heads of household for 37.8 per cent and relatives and others for 27.5 per cent. This analysis shows that the heads of the families and their wives and children together constitute about 72.5 per cent of the household population and that as many as 27.5 per cent are relatives and others. Among the relatives the proportion of females is larger than that of males since the wives and daughters of married sons of the heads of the households generally reside with them. The high proportion of relatives and others indicates that the joint family system is fairly well established.

**Growth of Population:—**The following table shows the actual increase and the percentage increase in the population of the district during the census years from 1901 to 1951:—

Year (1)	10 Years (2)	20 Years (3)	Net Variation during		
			30 Years (4)	40 Years (5)	50 Years (6)
1901 .. .. .	-72,713 (-18.47)	-59,599 (-15.14)	-21,435 (-5.44)	+56,181 (+14.27)	+1,36,561 (+34.68)
1911 .. .. .	+13,114 (+4.08)	+51,278 (+15.97)	+1,28,894 (+40.15)	+2,09,274 (+65.19)	
1921 .. .. .	+38,164 (+11.42)	+1,15,780 (+34.65)	+1,96,160 (+58.76)		
1931 .. .. .	+77,616 (+20.84)	+1,57,996 (+42.44)			
1941 .. .. .	+80,380 (+17.87)				

(Figures in brackets indicate percentage).



A scrutiny of the table above shows that during last 50 years the growth of population has been 1,36,561 persons or 34.68 per cent. During 1901-30 the growth of the population was slow and at times declined. The contributory causes were partly the high general mortality caused by the famines of 1900, 1907, 1908, malaria epidemic of 1908, influenza of 1918 and 1919. The large and continuous growth amounting 58.76 per cent during the 30 years since 1921 is partly the result of a better control over mortality due to improving conditions of living and the result of the operation of the factors such as industrialisation and urbanisation, improved communications, control of famines and epidemics, etc. Looking at the percentage variation in the population, we see that between 1901-10 there was a decline of 18.47 per cent in total district population, Gird tahsil had the maximum decline of 27.95 per cent followed by Bhandar 12.06 per cent, Pichhore 8.47 per cent and Ghatigaon 7.74 per cent.

The decade 1911-20 shows an increase of 4.08 per cent in the population of the district, as against the fall of 18.47 in the previous decade, a positive increase of 16.20 per cent was registered in Gird tahsil, while in the remaining tahsils, Pichhore registered a decline of 7.5 per cent, followed by Bhandar 5.43 per cent and Ghatigaon 1.73 per cent. The decade was one of general prosperity on the whole, but during 1918 and 1919 the region was devastated by the influenza epidemic in two waves and resulted in a decline of population.

The progressive increase in population was maintained in the following two decades. It rose by 11.42 per cent in 1921-30 and by 20.84 in 1931-40, of which Gird tahsil recorded a rise of 30.20 per cent followed by Pichhore 19.57 per cent, Ghatigaon 8.65 per cent and Bhandar 2.37 per cent. The increase during the decade showed that the economic depression which overshadowed the first six years of the period, and the out-break of the World War II towards the end of the decade did not seriously affect the growth of population. During 1941-1951, the population of the district went up by 17.87 per cent. The highest increase of population was in Gird tahsil, 26.95 per cent, while in Pichhore the increase was 16.43 per cent, and Ghatigaon 2.8 per cent. There was a decrease of 4.01 per cent in Bhandar tahsil. The increase of population in the district during this decade is largely accounted for by the growth of the population of Gwalior city which rose by 32.4 per cent, partly due to the growing importance of the city. The boundaries of Gwalior city include Lashkar, Morar, the old Gwalior town and suburban area. Formerly the old Gwalior town and Morar had been satellite towns administered by one municipality. Since 1921 there was a steady increase in the city's population which rose by 12 per cent in 1931 and further increased by 44 per cent in the decade 1931-41 and by another leap of 32 per cent in 1941-51.

According to 1961 census the population of the district is 6,57,876 (3,53,813 males and 3,04,063 females) nearly 1,27,577 or 24.05 per cent over what it was in 1951. The population of the redrawn tahsil of Gird rose to 4,24,729 persons, marking an increase of about 39 per cent, of Pichhore to 1,69,633 being an increase of 50.09 per cent and of Bhandar tahsil to 63,514 which shows an increase of 22.23 per cent over 1951.



**Emigration and Immigration:—**During the decade 1891-1901, the famine of 1899-1900 caused a large scale temporary emigration into less affected districts within the State. This district continued to suffer a loss of population for next three decades also as a result of net migration, but the area of emigration was confined within the State. The following table shows inter-region migration within the State:—

Migration between Gird	Balance of emigration over immigration
Sabalgarh	11,350
Bhind	24,332
Agar	12,338
Amjhera	1,949
Isagarh	5,636
Other districts	17,649

In the decade 1901-11, the census actually recorded a decrease of 18.5 per cent in population. One peculiar feature of the population emigrating into contiguous districts and States, or immigrating from contiguous districts and States is that there was a preponderance of women, a fact which could be attributed to marriage customs. The volume of immigration and emigration is given in the following table:—

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1. Immigrants into Gird Gwalior from—	Persons (in '000)
(a) Contiguous districts in the State	.. 6
(b) Other parts of the State	.. 1
(c) Contiguous parts of other States	.. 4
(d) Non-contiguous parts of other States	.. 16
2. Emigration from Gird Gwalior into—	
(a) Contiguous districts within the State	.. 73
(b) Other parts of the State	.. 85
(c) Outside the State	Not available

During the decade 1911-21, inspite of the influenza epidemic of the year 1918, the district recorded a rise of 4.08 per cent in population mainly owing to the return of the inhabitants of Lashkar who had left the city during the epidemic of plague earlier.



The decade 1921-31 showed for the first time the balance of immigration in favour of the district, perhaps due to the extension of irrigational facilities available in the district.

1. Immigration into Gwalior district from—	Persons
(a) Contiguous districts in the State ..	15,266
(b) Other parts of the State ..	1,297
(c) Contiguous Provinces or States ..	24,264
(d) Non-contiguous Provinces or States ..	9,486
(e) Out side India ..	63
2. Emigration from Gwalior district into—	
(a) Contiguous districts and Natural Divisions ..	6,438
(b) Other parts of the State ..	6,168
(c) Other parts of the Country	Not Available

During 1931-41 a large number of persons had migrated into the district. The influx was largest in the city of Lashkar. The following table shows the distribution of the persons who migrated into the city according to the place of birth:—

Persons born in (1)	Enumerated in Lashkar City (2)	Enumerated in Gird district (3)
Gird District .. .. .	1,34,464 (73.7)	4,11,863 (83.5)
Other Districts of Gwalior State .. .. .	14,561 (8.0)	36,945 (7.5)
Central India Agency .. .. .	3,487 (1.9)	7,567 (1.5)
Rajputana Agency .. .. .	3,979 (2.2)	5,651 (1.1)
United Provinces .. .. .	18,673 (10.2)	22,667 (4.6)
C. P. and Berar .. .. .	1,107	1,392

(Figures in brackets indicate percentages)

About 26 per cent of the residents of Lashkar city are immigrants from outside Gird district. Out of nearly 37 thousand persons who migrated into the district from other districts in the State, nearly 14.6 thousand decided to settle in the city of Lashkar, the rest being distributed in the rural areas of the district. Apart from these, seasonal migration takes place from the tahsils of the district, specially among the day labourers. They generally emigrate to Gwalior and Dabra to seek labour in Brick and Sugar Industries. During *rabi* harvesting period people immigrate from Jhansi, Tikamgarh and other surrounding areas.

The decade 1941-1951 witnessed the end of World War II and also the achievement of our national independence. The State of Madhya Bharat also came into existence. As a consequence of these events, there was a marked move-



ment of population into the district. The following statement shows the sources of immigration into Gwalior district:—

Birth Place	Residents of rural areas		Residents of urban areas	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
District of Gird .. .. .	1,39,204	1,06,617	86,855	78,368
Other districts in the State of Madhya Bharat	6,178	13,276	11,480	9,683
States in India outside Madhya Bharat region	3,947	12,895	24,121	1,93,561
Bhopal .. .. .	36	43	160	325
Uttar Pradesh .. .. .	1,623	5,406	12,315	10,607
Vindhya Pradesh .. .. .	1,446	6,835	1,250	964
Punjab .. .. .	343	168	258	451
PEPSU .. .. .	16	2	628	672
Hyderabad .. .. .	..	1	36	81
Madras .. .. .	9	4	109	160
Pakistan .. .. .	118	99	10,996	9,518

The table reveals that there was a predominance of casual migration in case of migrants into rural areas from neighbouring districts and States adjoining the erstwhile Madhya Bharat. Marriage link with Vindhya Pradesh appears to be strong in the rural areas, while in the urban areas the migration from Uttar Pradesh was of a permanent or semi-permanent nature. The non Indian Nationals, inhabiting the urban tract of the district were of the order of 22 persons according to 1951 census. Out of these 18 were of British, three of Dutch and one of Hungarian nationality.

#### DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION BETWEEN URBAN AND RURAL AREA

The distribution of the population in the district shows a predominantly rural bias as will be clear from the following table:—

Decade	Total population	Urban	Rural
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1901 .. .. .	3,93,738	1,39,515 (35.43)	2,54,223 (64.57)
1911 .. .. .	3,21,025	85,207 (26.54)	2,35,818 (73.46)
1921 .. .. .	3,34,139	1,14,903 (34.39)	2,19,236 (65.61)



(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1931 .. .. .	3,72,303	1,28,448 (34.50)	2,43,855 (65.50)
1941 .. .. .	4,49,919	1,85,170 (41.16)	2,64,749 (58.84)
1951 .. .. .	5,30,299	2,47,958 (46.76)	2,82,341 (53.24)
1901-1951 percentage growth		77.73	11.06

(Figures in brackets are percentages)

It is clear from the table above that while in 1901 the urban and rural population was 35.43 and 64.57 per cent respectively, it gradually tended to get equalised and during the 1941 and 1951 decades, the urban population increased to 41.16 per cent and 46.76 per cent, respectively. During these 50 years urban population registered an increase of 77.73 per cent against a rise of 11.06 per cent in rural population, so that the rural-urban distribution of the population has become almost even.

One main reason for the increase in the urban population is the increase in the population of Gwalior city by 32.4 per cent during the decade of 1941-51. The city owed its importance to the fact that it was the capital of the Gwalior State upto May 1948 and thereafter capital of erstwhile State of Madhya Bharat upto October, 1956. There has also been a growth in the industrial and commercial importance of the city during the last 30 years. Besides this, the increase in population of Dabra by 138 per cent during 1951, due to the development of its sugar industry, has also contributed to the increased urbanization.

According to 1961 census figures, there are four towns in the district. Gwalior city (including the Morar cantonment) is by far the largest with a population of 3,00,587 persons. The population of the different towns is given in the following table:—

City/Town (1)	Population		
	Persons (2)	Male (3)	Female (4)
Gwalior City (including Morar Cantonment).	3,00,587	1,62,204	1,38,383
Pichhore Town .. .. .	4,562	2,336	2,226
Dabra Town .. .. .	12,661	7,162	5,499
Bhander Town .. .. .	6,638	3,463	3,175

Source:—Census 1961.



In 1961, the urban population was of the order of 3,24,448 and rural 3,33,428. The difference in rural and urban population thus further narrowed during the decade owing to the decline in rural population from 53.24 per cent in 1951 to 50.68 per cent, while on the other hand, there was an increase from 46.76 per cent in 1951 to 49.32 per cent in the urban population of the district. The urban population increased by 76,490 or 30.85 per cent and rural by 51,087 or 18.37 per cent over 1951.

It is interesting to analyse the variations in the urban and rural population during the last five decades. Appendices VI and VII show the position from 1901 onwards. It will be seen that while the growth of urban population has been conspicuous from 1921 onwards—the growth was 115.8 per cent from 1921 to 1951—the increase in the rural population during the same period was very slight, the corresponding increase being only 28.78 per cent. By the year 1941, while the urban population had risen by 32.78 per cent, the rural population grew only by 4.14 per cent. Taking the last decade 1941-51, we find that as against an increase of 33.90 per cent in the urban population, the rural population increased only by 6.65 per cent.

#### DISPLACED PERSONS

The total displaced persons in the district are 20,678, composed of 10,778 males and 9,900 females. Out of these, as many as 20,466 persons or 98.97 per cent are living in urban areas and the residue 212 or 1.03 per cent are residing in rural areas. The following table shows the number of displaced persons including males and females in urban and rural areas according to the years of arrival:—

		Total population of displaced persons		
		Persons	Males	Females
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1946	Total	143	78	65
	Rural	1	1	..
	Urban	142	77	65
1947	Total	9,634	4,859	4,775
	Rural	148	75	73
	Urban	9,486	4,784	4,702
1948	Total	8,930	4,711	4,219
	Rural	37	21	16
	Urban	8,893	4,690	4,203
1949	Total	1,221	709	512
	Rural	6	6	Nil
	Urban	1,215	703	512
1950	Total	681	391	290
	Rural	18	12	6



Total population of displaced persons				
(1)	(2)	Persons (3)	Males (4)	Females (5)
	Urban ..	663	379	284
1951 .. ..	Total ..	69	36	39
	Rural ..	2	1	1
	Urban ..	67	29	38
	District Total ..	20,678	10,778	9,900
	Rural ..	212 (1.03)	116 (1.08)	96 (0.97)
	Urban ..	20,466 (98.97)	10,662 (98.04)	9,804 (99.03)

(Figures in brackets indicate percentages)

The above table will establish that bulk of displaced persons arrived during 1947 and 1948. The great majority of the displaced persons came from West Pakistan, and only 11 persons came from East Pakistan during 1947 and 1948.

The following table gives the broad divisions according to livelihood classes of the displaced persons under agricultural and non-agricultural occupations:—

Livelihood classes		Displaced persons		
(1)		Persons (2)	Males (3)	Females (4)
A. All Agricultural classes.—				
	Total .. ..	246	136	110
	Rural .. ..	122	63	59
	Urban .. ..	124	73	51
B. All Non-Agricultural classes.—				
	Total .. ..	20,432	10,642	9,790
	Rural .. ..	90	53	37
	Urban .. ..	20,342	10,589	9,753
Total A : B.—				
	Total .. ..	20,678	10,778	9,900
	Rural .. ..	212	116	96
	Urban .. ..	20,466	10,662	9,804

The majority of the displaced persons numbering 20,432 or 98.81 per cent are following non-agricultural pursuits and only 246 persons or 1.19 per cent are engaged in agricultural industry. This explains why a great majority of the displaced persons live in urban areas.



## LANGUAGE

The most widely spoken language in the district is Western Hindi with its dialectal variations of *Brij Bhasha* and *Bundelkhandi*. During the period from the 14th to 16th century a form of Hindi developed in this region known as *Gwaliori*, which however, merged with *Brij Bhasha*. The other languages which are spoken by sizable sections of the people in the district are Marathi and Rajasthani. In the period following the partition of India in 1947, there was an influx of displaced persons into the district especially from West Pakistan. This is reflected in the number of persons in the district speaking Sindhi, Punjabi and Urdu according to the 1951 census. The table below shows the percentages of the population speaking some of the widely spoken languages in the district :—

Language		1911	1921	1931	1941	1951
		Persons	Persons	Persons	Persons	Persons
(1)		(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1. Hindi (Western)	..	2,95,962 (94.65)	3,08,163 (94.39)	3,49,927 (95.92)	4,69,124 (95.11)	4,75,749 (89.71)
2. Marathi	.. ..	10,492 (3.36)	13,220 (4.05)	10,876 (2.98)	17,142 (3.48)	19,315 (3.64)
3. Rajasthani	.. ..	5,115 (1.64)	2,466 (0.76)	2,147 (0.59)	4,125 (0.84)	310
4. Urdu	.. ..	..	..	..	..	9,653 (1.82)
5. Gujrati	.. ..	..	336	288	801	859
6. Sindhi	.. ..	..	..	38	..	15,623 (2.95)
7. Bengali	.. ..	96	206 (0.06)	135	289	692
8. Punjabi	.. ..	280	285	210	1,221 (0.25)	7,839 (1.49)

(Figures in brackets are percentages)

Besides the languages mentioned in the above table, a few other languages are spoken by small sections of the population according to the 1951 census, such as *Pahari* 13, *Tamil* 91, *Telugu* 3, *Pardhi* 100, *Balochi* 16, and *Pushto* 14. The figures for Urdu in the census enumerated prior to 1951 are shown as blank because the number of Urdu speaking persons was included in those speaking Western Hindi. In the enumeration of 1951 the Urdu speaking persons were recorded separately and form 1.82 per cent of the population. There is corresponding diminution in the percentage of those speaking Western Hindi.

The striking increase in the number of persons speaking Western Hindi is perhaps further explained by the fact that during the census enumeration in the rural areas persons speaking the minor variations of Hindi, such as *Baghelkhandi*, *Rajasthani* and other local dialects of Western Hindi declared themselves as speaking Hindi.



Though Gwalior district is linguistically a part of Bundelkhand, differences in the spoken language are noticeable among the people living in various parts of the district. It is a common saying that dialects change after every ten *kos*. In the northern parts of the district the spoken language is influenced by the *Bhilarwari* of Bhind and *Tawarghari* of Morena. The peculiarity is mainly one of phonetics, the consonants being pronounced with more emphasis. In the east and south of the district, the spoken dialect is influenced by *Bundelkhandi* although in the west the language is further affected by *Tawarghari*. It is no doubt true that the dialectal variations of the language are slowly disappearing due to the changes taking place in the State, such as the spread of education, circulation of newspapers, improvement in transport and communications and the impact of public speeches by political and social workers.

The spoken language in Gwalior city is *Khariboli*. This is to some extent subject to individual modifications according to the language bias of the people. For instance, the population of Gwalior consists partly of people coming from different villages, persons who have settled in the city from other parts of the country, the displaced persons mainly speaking Sindhi and Punjabi as mother tongue, large portion of Marathi speaking people and a considerable section of Urdu speaking people, mainly Muslims. The pure *Khariboli* of the areas is thus subject to slight variations when spoken by persons belonging to these different categories, according to their speech habits.

Bilingualism is prevalent widely in this district among those persons whose mother tongue is other than Hindi. Appendix VIII shows the distribution of the subsidiary languages spoken by the 54,550 persons whose mother tongue is not Hindi. It will be seen that the majority of them have adopted Western Hindi as the subsidiary language.

The script used in the district is almost wholly the *Devanagri* script, although the Urdu script is used by the Muslims and some of the displaced persons. The *Balbodh* script of Marathi is used by some Maharashtrians in their account books while a section of Marwaris use their own script in their accounts. The use of the *Devanagri* script, however, is rapidly spreading in all these respects.

## RELIGION

The majority of the people in the district profess Hindu religion. The next largest community consists of Muslims who constituted 6.58 per cent of the population according to the 1951 census. The table below shows the main religious communities in the district during five decades:—

Religious Groups	1911	1921	1931	1941	1951
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Hindus .. ..	2,79,030 (89.24)	2,86,748 (87.83)	3,22,476 (88.40)	4,33,737 (87.94)	4,89,563 (92.32)



(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Muslims .. .. .	29,980 (9.59)	33,634 (10.30)	39,232 (10.75)	53,423 (10.83)	34,879 (6.58)
Hindus .. .. .	1,729 (0.55)	2,394 (0.74)	2,569 (0.74)	4,400 (0.89)	3,863 (0.73)
Sikhs .. .. .	15 ..	64 ..	156 ..	1,140 (0.23)	1,425 (0.27)
Christians .. .. .	282	389	268	475	519

(Figures in brackets indicate percentages)

The decrease in the percentage of the Muslim population in the decade between 1941 and 1951 is apparently due to the emigration of a section of the Muslim community from the district after the establishment of Pakistan. The Hindus being predominantly in a majority in the district, the social life and customs among the people take their complexion largely from the traditions of the Hindu community. Nevertheless, there has been a custom, since the days of the Maratha rule, for the people of different religions to join in the festival celebrations of each other's religions. For instance, the Maharaja Sindhia and his Sardars used to participate in the *Tazia* processions during *Moharram*, and the Muslims took part in *Dussehra* celebrations.

Within the Hindu community itself, reformist organizations, such as the *Arya Samaj*, were established in the district and sought to break down some of the orthodox customs and institutions in the community. The *Arya Samaj* has established branches at Lashkar, Morar and in the old Gwalior city, and runs an educational institution named Dayanand Arya Vidyalaya.

Regarding the progressive disappearance of the caste divisions among Hindus, the 1931 Census Report comments as follows on the situation in Gwalior :—

"In the social sphere we see two prominent tendencies at work. Firstly, the picturesque in caste is fast dying out. There are clear signs that this ancient institution is dropping piece by piece its heavy armour of form and formulae. Even among the orthodox sections of the Hindu community, the emphasis has definitely moved from the non-essential to the essential aspects of the system, thus the restrictions on occupation, social intercourse and food and drink and the authority of the caste Panchayats are growing weaker and weaker every day, and most communities are now ready enough to adapt themselves to changing conditions when called upon to surrender their caste principles and prejudices in sufficiently insistent terms. More significant is the other tendency which finds vigorous expression in extensive caste displacements, induced by the introduction of western innovation. The most effective storm centres of revolt are the lower classes. In the case of these people the perception of what political advances implies has been



instantaneous. An unerring intuition has taught them that caste betterment is the only condition of their survival, while wide-spread sympathy with their aspiration has opened their eyes to the realities involved in further political advance. These factors have combined to kindle in the masses new hopes to harden their determination to break through social barriers. It all comes down to a question of self-preservation. Taking into consideration the total effect of these and other influences such as education, travel, etc., etc., the inference may safely be drawn that social and psychological basis of the Hindu Caste System have been rudely shaken."<sup>1</sup> This analysis is as valid today as it was in 1931.

There are 2,31,381 persons in the district who are classified as Backward Classes. Of these the Scheduled Castes account for 1,04,340.<sup>2</sup> The persons classified Scheduled Tribes number 10,981, of whom the predominant majority, as many as 10,913, are Sahariyas. Cunningham identified the Sahariyas with 'Saura or 'Savara' equating the word with the cognate Scythian word meaning an axe, the Sahariyas being known to always carry with them an axe. Though this conclusion is based largely on speculation, there is reason to believe that the Sahariyas belong to the large family of the Kols. Cunningham has recorded at Sagar that Gonds conquered the 'Sauras'.<sup>3</sup> Savaras generally follow the local Hindu customs and, according to Russell and Hiralal they adopt early marriages "because of the inconsiderable labour involved in carrying the bride and bridegroom on the shoulders of their relatives from the bride's house to the bridegroom's."<sup>4</sup> The Savaras generally speak the dialect of the local Hindu population and worship *Bhawani* under various names. Formerly the dress of the Savaras used to be of the scantiest, but they now adopt the dress habits of the local rural population. Their main occupation was the collection of forest produce, and used to be experts in collecting honey-combs. At present the Savaras mainly engage themselves in field labour, and are hired as contract labour in road and construction works.

### SOCIAL LIFE

The social life among the people of the district, both urban and rural, is largely traditional though the impact of modern life and the changing economic circumstances tend to break down many long established social institutions. For centuries the core of the social structure has been the joint family. In the past, and even today to a large extent, the village community has been held together by the bond of a joint family. It has been

- 
1. Census 1931, Vol. XXII, Part I, pp. 236-37.
  2. The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Gwalior district are: 1. Bagri or Bagdi
  2. Balai 3. Banchada 4. Barahar or Basod 5. Bargunda 6. Bedia 7. Bhangi or Mehtar
  8. Bhanumati 9. Chamar, Bairwa, Bhambi, Jatav, Mochi or Regar 10. Chidar
  11. Dhanuk 12. Dhed 13. Dom 14. Kanjar 15. Khatik 16. Koli or Kori
  17. Kotwal 18. Mahar 19. Mang or Mang Garodi 20. Meghwal 21. Nat, Kalbelia or Sapera
  22. Pardhi 23. Pasi 24. Sansi 25. Zamral 26. Gond 27. Korku
  28. Seharia
  3. Cunningham, Archaeological Survey Report, Vol. XVII, p. 112.
  4. Russell and Hiralal, Tribes and Castes in C. P., Vol. IV, p. 503.



pointed out earlier that 27.5 per cent of the households in the district consist of relatives and others while the heads of the households and their wives and children constitute 72.5 per cent. Out of the total population of the district 45.7 per cent belongs to families each of which has four to six members.

The institution of joint family is, however, showing signs of a gradual break-up in this district as in other parts of the country, in rural as well as in the urban areas. While several factors have contributed to the loosening of this bond, they mainly stem from economic causes. The stress of competitive life and the struggle for earning a living make it difficult, particularly in the urban areas, for the large joint families of the old type to exist as economically viable units. The search for employment and the tendency of the younger generation to marry late contribute to taking the individual members of the family farther away from the joint household and have steadily led to the disintegration of the joint family system. This tendency is spreading, though perhaps to a less extent, in the rural areas as well, from where the lure of urban life and industrial occupations has been dispersing the members of large households. The inadequacy of the limited resources of the joint family to support growing numbers also results in the break-up of large family units. This is reflected in the steep rise in the urban population during the last two to three decades, while the rural population during the same period has increased only very slightly.

### PROPERTY AND INHERITANCE

An analysis of the household distribution of the population according to the 1951 census is of interest. The average size of the household is five persons. About 27.4 per cent of the families in the district have three or less members each, and account for 11.4 per cent of the population. Families having four to six members each are 48.8 per cent and cover 45.7 per cent of the population. Families of the size of seven to nine members are 16.6 per cent of households and account for 24.3 per cent of the population. Only 7.1 per cent of the families have 10 members and above, covering the remaining 18.4 per cent of the total population. The forms of inheritance prevalent among the people in the district are generally in accordance with the usual practice and the existing laws applicable to the communities concerned. Among the Hindus the normal custom is for the sons to divide uniformly among themselves the property of the father. When disputes arise in rural areas, the elders of the village who usually constitute the Village Panchayat, arbitrate in the dispute and the award made by them is generally accepted by the contestants. The partitioning of the dwelling houses is done by forming separate tenements in the house, with one common room, known as *por* which is shared by all. Divisions in the land are marked by putting up *kachha* med across the fields to mark off each person's possession. In the village papers, however, the land is generally not shown separately, but a note is entered to show that the land ~~was~~ is ~~equally~~ equally divided among the sons.



eldest son succeeded to the estate. But after the Madhya Bharat Zamindari Abolition Act of 1951 the estates were abolished.

### MARRIAGE AND MORALS

The marriage customs and rituals among the different communities in the district generally follow the traditional forms that prevail among the communities. The marital age varies according to the social standing of the families, especially in rural areas. Among the middle and higher classes it is about 16 years for boys and 12 years for girls, but among the lower classes it is not uncommon to find that boys of about 10 years and girls of eight years of age are got married.

Marriage among the Hindus is looked upon as an important sacrament in the life of a person, and there are fairly rigid restrictions and exclusions regarding the person one can marry. Marriage between persons belonging to different castes, and even sub-castes, is normally not permitted. Marriage between persons belonging to the same *gotra* is prohibited, and a girl is not allowed to marry her maternal uncle or his son. It is customary to consult each other's horoscope before the marriage between them is fixed, and the payment of a dowry by the parents of the bride to the bridegroom is still widely prevalent among all classes. Lately there has been a reformist movement gathering support among all sections of people for the discontinuance of the dowry system. Apart from the payment of dowry the marriage customs involve the exchange of presents by the bride's parents to the bridegroom and by the bridegroom's parents to the bride, the latter usually taking the form of some ornaments or clothes.

The marriage ceremony itself follows the orthodox forms which prevail among the different communities. Among the Hindus the auspicious day of marriage is fixed after consulting the astrologers and the ceremony commences with the formal arrival of the bridegroom's party, consisting of relations and friends of the bridegroom, at the bride's house. The party is received with great ceremony and courtesy by the bride's parents, with a brief ritual of welcome known as *dwar puja*. The sacred rite of marriage takes place at the appointed and auspicious moment, *lagna* as it is called, with the lighting of the sacred fire and *hawan*. The two basic parts of the marriage ceremony among most Hindus are the *Kanyadan* and the *Saptapadi* which are the significant features of the marriage sacrament. The day following the wedding is the day of the departure of the bride to her husband's house and the ceremony of *palang bethoin*. The leave taking is meant to be a sad moment, and is marked by the singing of appropriate songs, and tearful parting of the bride from her parents who give her the traditional counsel and blessings. However meaningful the rituals in their origin might have been, these like other customs in social life have largely been reduced to mere formality.

The civil marriages are not common either with Hindus or Muslims, and they take place generally when there are some special difficulties in solemnising a sacramental marriage, as when the parties belong to different castes or reli-



gions. The civil marriage cases instituted in the Court of Registrar of Civil Marriages, Gwalior, under Act III of 1872 and Special Marriage Act of 1954, during the last 10 years up to 1961, were only 51, out of which in 28 cases the marriage was solemnized. During 1961, 11 such cases were instituted, of which only in four cases the marriage was solemnized. Year-wise information from 1952 to 1961 can be seen in Appendix IX.

Divorce is not common among Hindus, though among some of the lower castes, cases of divorce do occur. The recent legislation on the subject, the Hindu Marriage Act of 1955, contains provisions for divorce, and in 1958 there were 33 cases of applications for divorce of which 15 were granted. Of these 33 cases the application in 16 cases was from the wife and in 17 cases from the husband. The divorce among the lower castes had in the past been governed largely by custom and by the verdict of the Panchayat. Remarriages after divorce are common among these classes and are known as *Natra* or *Dharicha*.

Among the Muslims of Gwalior district four classes are normally recognised—the Saiyads, Mughuls, Shaikhs and Pathans. The majority of the Muslim community either belongs to Shia or Sunni sect, although the former account for only a small section of Muslim population in the district. The Saiyads are primarily endogamous, while among the others, marriage is not rigidly restricted within their own community. Certain taboos are observed in regard to marriage among relations. A man may not marry his wife's sister while his wife is living or unless he divorces her. One may not marry his foster mother or foster sister. Marrying one's maternal uncle is permissible, and Muslim law also permits polygamy. Widow marriage is permitted in the community, and is called *Nikah Sani*.

Among Muslims, marriage is generally treated as a contract, and is entered into by the families of the bride and the bridegroom. Any annulment of the contract entitles the wife to an alimony (*mehr*), if not already paid, the amount of which is fixed at the time of the marriage. The first formal marriage rite is *imamzamin*, the ceremony of betrothal, also called *magni* among some sections. As a token of engagement a rupee coin is tied to the hands of the bride and the groom, and the date of marriage is fixed in consultation with the Qazi. Among certain classes this rite is also called *godhi*. Then on the appointed day of the marriage the *barat* or the bridegroom's party comes in formal procession to the bride's house and is received at the gate with the ceremonial rite called *kalas*. The principal marriage ceremony is called *nikah* which is solemnized by the Qazi of the bride's side. After the marriage document is read out by the Qazi in the presence of the representatives of both families, the document is signed by the bridegroom, and the formal consent of the bride is obtained to the terms of the marriage including the *mehr*. This concludes the formal marriage contract. This is, however, followed by the usual festivities and rejoicings. It is customary to conduct the bridegroom to the apartments of the bride where the two are formally seated with a curtain



drawn between them, and to let them see each other for the first time in the reflection of a mirror placed suitably. Sometimes the mirror is fitted in a ring worn in the thumb.

As among Hindus, the concluding part of the marriage rite (*Rukhsat*) is departure of the bride to her husband's house. The marriage party leaves along with the bridal pair for the house of the bridegroom's parents where they are received with the usual ceremony. It is customary for the families of the bride and bridegroom to exchange presents on the occasion of religious festivals. During *Id. semai* and clothes are exchanged, in *Baqr Id* clothes, meat, etc., are sent to each other and during *gyarai* sweets are exchanged.

**Rituals at Birth, Death, etc.**—The birth of a child is associated with certain rituals, both among Hindus and Muslims. In fact even during the mother's pregnancy certain rites are performed symbolising fertility. In the seventh month the expectant mother is decked with new clothes, and her lap filled with fruits, sweets, etc. Usually she goes to her own parents' home at this stage and remains there till the child is born, more especially in the case of the first conception. From the time the child is born for a period which varies from 7 days to 21 days, the mother is considered to be polluted. Certain taboos are associated with the period. She is not expected to visit the temple or the mosque, to enter the kitchen, or to take part in religious festivals. Among Muslims she must not pray or fast or touch the *Koran* during this period. Among Hindus the 'naming' ceremony of the child takes place usually after twenty-one days. This is, however, subject to variations among different sections of Hindus; it is performed among some after 11 days or after 40 days. Among Muslims the purificatory ceremony takes place after 40 days when the mother is bathed and dressed in new clothes, and the child's head is shaved for the first time.

The rituals connected with death are similar to what prevails among the community in other parts of the country. Among Hindus, except in the case of children upto a certain age, the body is cremated. The rites connected with cremation are threefold, the preparation of the body, the cremation, and post-cremation rites. These are more or less similar among Hindus of different parts of the district. After the body is washed and covered with new cloth and placed on the bier, it is carried to the cremation ground, led by the nearest relation, necessarily the eldest of the sons present, or in his absence a brother, or else, the nearest kinsman, who carries the fire in an earthen pot for the cremation. After the cremation fire is lit, the son or the nearest relation goes round the fire three times sprinkling water all round it. On the second day after the cremation the ashes are collected, and whenever possible they are cast into a sacred river. The pollution on the house and the near relations is observed for three days or 13 days, depending on the nearness of relationship. At the end of the period elaborate purificatory rites are performed. The nearest relations, usually the sons, are expected to shave their heads at the end of the period of pollution.



Among Muslims the dead are buried. The body is washed and wrapped in cloth, three pieces of cloth for males and five for females, and camphor is placed on the bier. To carry the bier is considered a meritorious act, and all friends deem it a privilege. At the funeral place the holy verses are recited by the *Maulvi* and then the body is lowered into the grave. Flowers and scented oil are offered, and the earth is strewn over the grave, the mourners also symbolically participating in the rite. Usually a tomb in masonry is erected and a sheet of white or red cloth spread over the grave; a green cloth is spread only over the tomb of *Faqirs* or saints. On the tenth day the relations visit the grave, offer flowers and scented oil and repeat sacred verses. Usually mourning is observed for 40 days.

The status of women, both in rural and urban areas, is largely traditional. Though primarily engaged in house-keeping they are also engaged in economic pursuits, especially in rural areas, either working in the fields and farms or in other wage-earning labour. According to the 1951 census there were 2,28,755 women who were non-earning dependents, while 11,789 were self-supporting and 9,330 earning dependents in the district.

The evil of prostitution is mainly centred in the urban and industrial areas. The main centres of prostitution in the Gwalior city are Chawri Bazar, where alone nearly 50 houses of prostitutes were counted in 1961. Besides, five are in More Bazar, two in Topi Bazar, seven in Daulatganj and three in Chiteraoli.

After the enactment of the 'Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Act, 1956' this evil is gradually disappearing. A special officer in the police department has been empowered under the Act for carrying out raids without warrant.

The Madhya Pradesh branch of the Association of Moral and Social Hygiene is doing useful work for the eradication of this evil, and for the rescue and rehabilitation of prostitutes. A fuller discussion of the activities of this association may be seen in Chapter XVI. As a result of the steady propaganda, and the force of public opinion prostitution has decreased considerably. Only about 25 per cent of the prostitutes now remain in the 'redlight' area of the city. The association runs a State Reception Centre where the rescued women are lodged and rehabilitated.

The cases registered under the Gambling Act for the last three years show an increase during the period. While in 1959 only 68 cases were reported of which 31 were convicted, in 1960 and 1961, 117 and 129 cases, respectively, were reported of which 52 and 75 cases in the respective years resulted in conviction.

#### HOMESTEADS

According to 1961 census there are 95,868 occupied houses in the district, of which 52.78 per cent are rural and 47.22 per cent urban. This approximates to a rural-urban population ratio, viz., 51 per cent rural and 49 per cent urban. The rural houses in Gwalior district are built mainly out of the building material available locally. Most of them have mud walls and thatched roof. The more well-to-do in the villages, however, use good



quality bricks for walls and tiles for the roof. The size of the houses varies from place to place. In Bhandar tahsil the village houses usually measure 100 ft. by 75 ft. which is much larger than the rural houses in other parts of Gwalior district. Most of the houses in Bhandar tahsil have fairly high entrance doors which have a *mehrab* on top of them. In their architecture the village houses in the district conform to the familiar type of Central India region. They are generally low, but are comparatively solid and manage to keep out the heat of the day during summer. In most of the houses the cattle-yard forms a part of the house, and the cattle fodder is kept in an attached shed. Most of the rural houses in Bhandar, however, have a separate cattle-yard.

The houses in urban areas, particularly in Gwalior city, vary in appearance and design according to the period of their construction. Those built in recent times are of a stereotyped design, flat-roofed and cement concrete built, and do not have any distinctive features. But the older houses are easily recognizable by their elaborate stone carving and lattice work. The sandstone of the area was, in the past, a popular building material and was used with exquisite craftsmanship in house building. The houses built by the former sardars and jagirdars of Gwalior are, even today, imposing in appearance with lattice-work panels, carved stone pillars, sometimes rising to three or four storeys. Rich carvings on sandstone adorn the arches, stone capitals and cornices shaped as peacocks and elephants. These edifices situated in prominent sites of this city stand as memorials of an older time of spacious living. But these are today set against a sprawling and rapidly growing surroundings of urban life, where crowded slums and low-roofed houses clutter the lanes and bye-ways of the town. Alongside a number of residential colonies of the middle class people are at present springing up along the Jhansi road and the Rani Laxmibai road.

**Furniture and Decoration.**—In regard to the furniture and internal decorations of houses in the urban areas, there is little that may be called distinctive or peculiar to the houses in the district. The pattern follows what is usually found in houses of the urban areas in other parts of the country, where a mixture of old pieces of furniture and the modern type is found, varying with the means and taste of the persons occupying them. In the houses of the more well-to-do, however, there is a deliberate reversion to the typical oriental pieces of furniture, like divans, *takhat*, etc., covered with embroidered cloth and cushions side by side with the western pieces of furniture, such as arm chairs, settees, etc. The furnishings in the rural houses are simpler and more in accordance with local forms. The flooring in the village houses is generally plastered with mud and cowdung, and the seats are usually on '*pattas*' or low wooden stools. They sleep inside the house on floors and use *charpais* strung with ropes when sleeping on the verandah or in the open. In some houses which have caught the breath of urban air, some wooden or metal chairs are not uncommon, especially if they happen to be the houses of the *patel* or of the village money-lender. Grain is stored in cowdung plastered receptacle known as *kotni* and wheat flour, pulses and condiments are kept in earthen pots. Iron and brass



utensils are used for cooking, though in the houses of the poor cooking is done in earthen pots. Food is generally eaten in a brass *thali*.

**Dress.**—In rural parts the men usually wear the customary *dhoti*, *saluka* and *safa*, but gradually the *kurta* and shirt are replacing the *saluka*. The use of *safa* is also fast disappearing among the younger generations except on ceremonial occasions, its place being taken by the white cap commonly called 'Gandhi cap'. To be bare-headed in the presence of elders, visitors etc., was formerly considered discourteous, but this is also undergoing a change, with the extensive habit of adopting the western form of hair-cut. Among the men in the rural areas it is still a fashion to keep large and impressive moustaches, though beards are not common among Hindus. Country-made shoes are widely used, and the elders of the village wear a *duppata* on their shoulders when going out of doors.

The usual dress among rural women is the *lahanga*, generally of bright red colour, the *choli* and a *lugda* which is usually yellow in colour and covers the shoulders and goes over the head, as a hood or veil. On festive occasions the women dress themselves in brighter colours, and when they can afford it, deck themselves in cloth embroidered with gold or silver threads. The women of the Maharashtrian community, especially the orthodox and older members of the community, wear saris known as *dandia* and *lugda* measuring about eight yards. The mode of draping the *sari* is peculiar to the community and different from the way the same is worn by the other women in the district.

In the city the European dress, *viz.*, shirts, coats, trousers, socks, boots, is common among the services and commercial classes irrespective of caste and religion. The waist-coat has, however, gone out of fashion among the common people, though a version of it, popularly called 'Jawahar-jacket' is quite popular. The Punjabi women among the displaced persons and others wear *shalwar* and *kameez*, and among Sindhis *pyjama* and *kurta* of silk are very popular.

**Ornaments.**—A few ornaments are considered indispensable to all women except widows, but it is customary among rural women to deck themselves heavily with silver, bronze and other bangles and anklets of different sizes. The *bichhias* are worn on the toes, while *lachha*, *payal*, *paeeb* and *zaje* are worn on ankles. Round the waist they wear *kardhani* and *tagri*, while round the arms they have *churi*, *gunje*, *kagne*, *bajuband* and *beden*. They wear round their necks *khajori* and *lalary*, and decorate their ears with *buli*, *karnphul*, *tarki* and *punjani*, while the *pungani* adorns the nose. The newly married girls use *bona* on their foreheads, *arsi* on the thumb and *hatha-phool* on the hand. While these ornaments are widely used, among the village women, the latter fashions in female adornment, popular in urban areas have also been spreading among the rural areas, especially those which are in the neighbourhood of towns, and cheap trinkets made of tinsel and gilt are popular merchandise in village fairs.

**Food.**—While wheat is the staple food of the area, the poorer classes in rural and urban areas take bread made of *bajra* and *jowar* in the cold season, and bread made of gram with *dal*, and sometimes wheat bread during the hot season and



rainy season. The villagers take food three times a day during the season when work in the fields is heavy. Early in the morning before going to work they eat what is called *kaleu*, and in the mid-day and in the evening they eat *biaru*. During the slack season when work in the field is not available, they eat twice. The food habits among the urban people are similar among the poorer classes, but the better-off classes eat a standard type of food common to people in the central parts of the country, consisting mainly of wheat *chapatis*, rice and vegetables, and meat (unless they are vegetarians). The people in the district generally eat meat, except certain classes of Hindus. The poor cannot often afford meat since it is expensive.

**Games and Amusements.**—Among the village people, the children play the kind of games which can be readily improvised and cost little or nothing, while being thoroughly enjoyable. Such common games as *gilli-danda*, *ankh-michoni*, *guptoduto* are commonly played, and ball games such as *judi*, *anta-goli*, *salah-goli* are also popular. During certain seasons kite-flying and swings are favourite sports in almost every village. As for indoor games, they are the amusements of adults, and are indulged in only when work is slack or when holidays and festivities call for them. Such are *chopad*, *shatranj* (chess) and certain card games like *kotpees*, *teen-do-panch* and *teen patta*. On certain occasions the village engages itself in vociferous cock-fighting, buffalo fight and partridge fight. But as in other matters, the modern amusements such as the cinema and the radio have made inroads in almost all parts of the district, and tend to displace some of the traditional forms of recreation. But certain types of religious group singing, like the recitations by *bhats* and the singing of *kirtans* continue to be popular both as means of entertainment and edification.

**Festivals and Fairs.**—The main festivals among Hindus are those celebrated by them all over the country, namely, *Diwali*, *Holi*, *Dussehra* and *Rakshabandhan*. These are celebrated with the customary rejoicings and hilarity associated with the festivals. The festival of lights (*Diwali*) which falls on the *amavasya* in the month of *Kartik* is an occasion of happiness and reunion of the relatives and friends. *Holi* which is celebrated during *Phalgun Purnima* is as riotously joyous and colourful in this district as in other parts of the country. In villages it is said to mark the successful reaping of the *rabi* harvest, and ears of wheat, etc., are dedicated to the *Holi* fire. During *Dussehra*, *Ramlila* processions are taken out. In Gwalior city a procession with tableaux representing the scenes from the *Ramayan* goes round the main streets. Chakri fair which is celebrated in August each year at Gwalior, on the day following *Rakshabandhan*, draws large crowds of competitors from the surrounding area. A local committee used to organize it, but now its management has been taken over by the Gwalior Municipal Corporation.

Yet another cultural festival, which is of comparatively recent origin, is the Tansen festival, which is celebrated at the mausoleum of Tansen at Gwalior in the month of February. The Festival committee arranges a three-day All India Music Conference, in which distinguished musicians from all parts of the country participate to pay homage to Tansen.



Among the Muslims the *Id-ul-Fitr* and the *Id-uz-Zuha* are occasions of rejoicings and they assemble in the mosques clad in colourful clothes, and after prayers exchange greetings and presents between relations and friends. The *Moharram* is another important festival among them, which is in memory of the martyrdom of Hussain and his family and is, therefore, a festival of commemoration rather than of rejoicing. Richly decorated *Tazias* are carried in procession on the tenth day of *Moharram* and are ceremonially immersed.

There are several fairs held in the district, some of which are associated with religious festivals. On *Shivratri* a large fair is held at Koteswar Mahadeo temple on the road between the Urwahj Gate of Gwalior fort and the old town of Gwalior. A similar fair is held at Bhuteswar Mahadeo temple at Aukhana. An annual *Urs* takes place at the tomb of Muhammad Ghaus, the most important Muslim saint of the State. The tomb is a fine specimen of Mughul architecture and is visited by large numbers of people during the *Urs* which takes place in January. Other places of interest in the district are described in a later chapter.

#### Abolition of Zamindari

The removal of the Zamindari system had certain social consequences, apart from the economic results which are indicated in a later Chapter.

The 'Abolition of Zamindari Act' came into force on the 25th June 1951 and with this the zamindari rights in 712 villages in the district were abolished and the Government of the erstwhile State of Madhya Bharat, became the sole proprietor of land. All the Jagirs in 100 villages were also resumed by the Madhya Bharat Government on the 4th December 1952. This put an end to some long standing evil-practices like 'Nazarana', 'Nauchavar' and *begar* (forced labour) among the people of the district. The formation of the erstwhile Madhya Bharat State also witnessed the disappearance of the annual Durbar that used to be held at the time of *Dussehra* where the sardars, jagirdars, etc., and other high officers of the State used to pay *Nauchhavar* and obeisance to the Maharaja.



## CHAPTER IV

### AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION

According to the Census of 1951, 47.04 per cent of the people of the district (including their dependents) derive their livelihood from agricultural sources. The table given below shows the position according to tahsils and different agricultural occupations:

#### Livelihood Pattern 1951

(Figures in percentage)

		Class I Cultivators of land wholly or mainly owned	Class II Cultivators of land wholly or mainly unowned	Class III Agricultural labourers	Class IV Agricultural Rent Recei- vers	Classes I-IV
(1)		(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Gwalior District	.. ..	30.60	10.85	4.77	0.82	47.04
Tahsils—						
Gird .. ..	.. ..	11.83	6.22	1.75	0.54	20.34
Pichhore .. ..	.. ..	56.83	15.02	8.76	0.64	81.25
Ghatigaon .. ..	.. ..	53.67	21.84	8.58	1.80	85.89
Bhander .. ..	.. ..	57.63	16.56	9.49	1.72	85.40

(NOTE—Ghatigaon tahsil was bifurcated on 1st April 1954 and merged with Pichhore and Gird tahsils.)

The comparatively low figure of agricultural population in Gird tahsil is due to the predominantly industrial and professional population of Gwalior city. The other tahsils are predominantly agricultural, where agricultural population is more than 80 per cent. According to the preliminary figures relating to the Census of 1961 it appears that non-agricultural occupations have considerably expanded, reducing the percentage of persons dependent on agriculture. In 1961, in all 1,24,719 households were enumerated in the district of whom 46,541 households were dependent on agriculture and 4,096 on agriculture and household industry, which gives a percentage of 40.61 households dependent on agriculture.

Agriculture and allied activities account for 54.9 per cent of the aggregate regional income of the district. Out of the total area of 12,89,645 acres 5,07,045 acres, or 39.32 per cent, are under the plough. Area under food crops is 92.3 per cent of the cropped area. The district is mainly a *rabi* area, the main crops being wheat occupying 33 per cent and gram 22 per cent. *Jowar* is grown on 14 per cent and rice on 9.5 per cent of the cropped area. Commercial crops are not important in the agricultural economy of the district.



## LAND UTILIZATION

Land utilisation statistics of the total geographical area of 1,290 thousand acres of the district from 1911-12 to 1959-60 may be seen in Appendix X, the statistics up to 1956-57 being shown in quinquennium averages. The geographical area is shown according to the territorial boundaries of the district as they existed at the time.

A perusal of the table will indicate that during 1911-12 to 1915-16, 'area not available for cultivation' was 35.6 per cent which was highest on record during the period. From 1911-12 to 1935-36, it ranged between thirties but after 1936-37 gradually 'the area not available for cultivation' showed a downward tendency, and during 1959-60 it stood at 20.1 per cent of the geographical area of the district. Similarly it will be observed that 'cultivable waste land other than fallows' which was 21.4 per cent of the total geographical area during 1911-12 to 1915-16 has been reduced to 18.6 per cent during 1959-60.

Another notable feature which the table reveals is that the 'net area sown' has continuously increased over the last half a century. During 1911-12 to 1915-16, 'net area sown' was 22.7 per cent, during 1951-52 to 1955-56, 36.4 per cent and during 1959-60, 39.3 per cent.

### Cultivable Waste

According to the land utilisation statistics of the district for the year 1959-60, cultivable waste lands (the main category in which waste lands are recorded) comprise an area of 1,31,570 acres. The Wastelands Survey and Reclamation Committee\* in their Report covering the State Madhya Pradesh (published in 1961) has observed that the extent of arable waste lands in the State is much less than that reported in revenue records and that the bulk of waste lands is found in blocks smaller than 250 acres. The cultivable waste lands in Gwalior district are near Ghatigaon, Aron, Simarva and adjoining villages.

Attempts in the direction of utilisation of waste lands date back to the year 1903 when the work of colonization of aboriginal and nomadic tribes and scheduled castes and ex-servicemen was started in the erstwhile Gwalior State. The operations were carried out under the guidance of a wing in the Directorate of Agriculture.

A manual for demarcation and allotment of cultivable waste land was introduced in 1912, and subsequently elaborated in 1923. Prospective settlers were invited both from within and outside the State. The relevant rules were widely published through newspapers in different languages and liberal terms were offered to settlers. Each settler was allotted about 33 *bighas* of culturable land and was required to bring one-fourth of it under the plough within a period

\*The Wastelands Survey and Reclamation Committee was set up by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Government of India, on 11th June 1959, for locating blocks of land for reclamation and resettlement in the different States of India, which afforded the greatest promise for increased agricultural production. Their Report in respect of Madhya Pradesh was published early in 1961.



of three years, one-half in six years, three-fourths, in nine years and the whole within a period of 12 years. The settler was not required to pay any land revenue for the first twelve years, but later had to pay only one-fourth land revenue up to twentieth year, one-half land revenue up to twenty-fifth year and full land revenue, thereafter. Irrigation charges were also not levied for the first five years. The settler was allowed to collect wood and building material from the neighbouring forests and quarries for construction of houses and wells. If the settlers formed a cooperative society, they got loans from Cooperative Banks also.

Sites requiring construction of *Bundhas* or *Bundhias* were inspected by Government officers and aid was provided to the settlers from the Agricultural Banks for the purpose. The necessity of reclamation and soil conservation was impressed upon the zamindars, and money advanced to them to undertake such works on their lands. On fulfilment of certain conditions, *chuk*-holders were given zamindari rights over the *chuks* and the area was transferred to Revenue Department. A colony of 250 settlers was established where an area of about 10,000 *bighas* (5,000 acres) of cultivable land was available. The operations were continued on more or less the same lines after the formation of the State of Madhya Bharat. The settlers were given further financial assistance for the clearance of land, construction of huts and sinking of wells. In addition to this, during the period of three years, 1956-59, a total area of cultivable waste amounting to 17,688 acres was allotted to individual cultivators.

As observed earlier, waste lands are scattered in small areas. Consequently the Waste Lands Survey and Reclamation Committee could locate only two blocks each of which was in a compact area of not less than 250 acres. These blocks are located in the villages Kaiwari and Aron in the Gwalior tahsil. The area is infested with shrubs and bushes. The soil is black clay and loam and very poor in texture. Irrigation is possible by digging wells, the depth of sub-soil water being 45—50 ft. The cost of reclamation has been estimated to be Rs. 50 per acre, and the additional food production at about four maunds per acre.

## IRRIGATION

Because of the special attention that had been paid in the erstwhile Gwalior State to irrigation projects, the Gwalior district today ranks among the districts which have the best developed irrigation systems in the Madhya Bharat region. Even so the extent of irrigation facilities has not been commensurate with the needs of the area. Even in pre-Mughul days Gwalior appears to have been prosperous judging from the evidence of the numerous old irrigation wells lying scattered in different parts of the district.

There are no perennial springs of any considerable magnitude in Gwalior. Rainfall is undependable and the character of the soil is porous. Therefore, the urgent and imperative need of conserving rainfall for carrying out agricultural operations successfully has always been felt. As a result, bunds and field



embankments multiplied enormously and a rough system of irrigation came to be established consisting principally of zamindari *bundhis*. The State advanced money for sinking wells, and making bunds. Sometimes this expenditure proved wasteful, since the importance of maintenance was not well recognised in those days, and it often happened that if 50 tanks were newly constructed, about 30 got breached for want of timely repairs.

Prior to 1895, besides the zamindari *bundhis*, there were a few irrigation works which could be called tanks. During the regime of Maharaja Jayaji Rao Sindhia, Sir Michael Filose and Rao Bahadur Munshi Bal Mukund constructed several fine tanks, notably the 12 tanks known as Palace Tanks, situated to the south of Lashkar, which are not only supplying water to the palace, but keeping alive all the wells of Lashkar and are the indirect cause of numerous gardens and orchards which abound south of Lashkar. But none of these tanks is large enough to hold more than 300 million cft. of water. His successor Maharaja Madhav Rao Sindhia continued the policy, and at his instance Col. D. G. Pitcher inaugurated a system of irrigation works. Unfortunately several of them were breached in 1902, partly due to rains and partly to defects in construction. They were later repaired.

In the year 1905, His Highness the Maharaja of Gwalior set up a separate Irrigation Department, realising that a satisfactory solution of the recurrent famine problem lay in multiplying irrigation works and thereby stabilizing agriculture. Consequently the Irrigation Department was separated from the Engineering Department and the staff was distributed all over the State so that every district and pargana had an Irrigation Officer. It was also considered desirable to undertake a survey of the State from the point of view of irrigation. In December 1906, Mr. Sidney Preston, a retired Inspector General of Irrigation with the Government of India, joined Gwalior State Irrigation Department, and made an exhaustive survey of the irrigation possibilities of the State. He divided the whole State into blocks, investigated sites and drew up a systematic irrigation programme.

A circular issued by the Gwalior Durbar during 1910-11 directed the Revenue Department not to reject any irrigation scheme merely on grounds of paucity of cultivators and cattle, because it was possible that the availability of irrigation facilities might induce cultivators to take up agriculture in land not very favourably situated otherwise. A new policy framed in the subsequent year classified the State into three divisions:—

- A. Having assured water supply and immune from famine.
- B. Tolerably well-protected due to the existence of good irrigation works, and
- C. Suffering great hardships for want of water.

It was further decided that efforts should be concentrated in the cases falling in C category in future.



### Major Irrigation Works

There are three important irrigation works in the district, all built by the former rulers of Gwalior:—

- (i) Harsi Dam,
- (ii) Tigra Dam, and
- (iii) Kaketo Dam.

The biggest irrigation project of the district is the Harsi Dam, which impounds the water of the river Parbati at a point where it leaves the hills. The reservoir has a storage capacity of 7,234 mcft. and feeds 43 miles of main canal known as Mastura canal and about 287 miles of distributaries. This work was completed in 1936. The Harsi Dam irrigates land around Bhitarwar and Dabra as well as lands situated to the south of Tekanpur tank. About 1,50,000 *bighas* are included in the commanded area of the Project where the principal crops are wheat, paddy and sugarcane. No *abiyana* was charged from cultivators for the first three years for developing irrigation from this project.

About 25 miles up-stream from the Harsi Dam is situated the Kaketo Dam. The two dams together constitute the Parbati scheme.

Tigra Dam is a constituent part of the overall Sank-Asan irrigation scheme conceived by Mr. Preston. It consists of Tigra and Pagara Dams, Kotwal and Pilloa pick-up weirs and a canal system. Out of these only Tigra Dam is located in the Gwalior district. The construction of the Tigra Dam was begun in the year 1909-10 and the project was completed during 1913-14. The dam is situated to the south-west of Lashkar at a distance of about 11 miles and has been built across the river Sank near the village of Tigra. Its catchment area is 160 sq. miles consisting of bare rocky hillocks and uplands destitute of vegetation from which a high run-off could be expected. The project consists of an earthen dam with a masonry core wall on the left, a weir wall and a masonry dam on the right. Water is let out through the Tigra canal. A sluice has also been provided for water works of Lashkar, Gwalior and Morar. The average storage in Tigra is 2,237 million cft. The reservoir was breached on account of the floods of 1917 to a length of 1,300 ft. causing great havoc in the surrounding areas. The breached portion was subsequently repaired and raised and waste weir provided with automatic shutters.

The rivers of the district do not offer much scope for flow irrigation. Therefore, reliance has to be placed on minor irrigation works, *viz.*, construction of new tanks, restoration and remodelling of old tanks, improvement and extension of existing channels, boring and deepening of wells and installation of persian wheels. A fillip has been given to the work of augmenting irrigation facilities since the commencement of the planning era in the district. The following statement shows the works carried out during First Five Year Plan (1951-56).



## Statement of works carried out during First Plan (1951-56) in Gwalior district

Serial No.	Name of scheme	Technical sanction for Rs. (000)	Potential created 1959-60 (Acres)	Remarks
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1	Romowa Dam .. .. .	800	3,500	Dam completed. Remodelling of channels in progress.
2	Ganganalanpur .. .. .	21	111	Work completed.
3	Jami .. .. .	15	75	Do.
4	Pasad .. .. .	39	2 30	Do.
5	Riaru tank .. .. .	44	400	Work completed after restoration.
6	Dabak Upper .. .. .	11	90	Work completed.
7	Sehsare tank .. .. .	1	..	Do.
8	Diwan tank .. .. .	49	99	Completed in Second Plan period.
9	Mahidpur tank .. .. .	31	16	Assessed tank.
10	Sirsa Tank .. .. .	291	..	Bed cultivation is being done in 93 acres. There is no independent irrigation and its water is being drained in Tigra dam.

During the Second Plan, in addition to the spill-over schemes, two new schemes, *viz.*, Chait Dam Project and Simaria Project have been taken up. They are estimated to cost Rs. 24.44 lakhs and Rs. 9.70 lakhs and benefit 3,260 acres and 2,400 acres respectively. While the former is under the scrutiny of the Central Water and Power Commission the latter is being executed. Six existing Jagirdari or zamindari tanks have been restored or the work is in progress. They are Jaurasi, Berje, Raipur Lower, Cholia, Guthina, and Bhegha. They are estimated to cost Rs. 1.02 lakhs and benefit a total acreage of 800. Among the projects proposed for inclusion in the Third Plan are the Lidhora Tank, the Dhamanka Tank and the lining of Harsi Main Canal. While the first two would irrigate 1,300 and 1,460 acres respectively, the third is designed to reduce seepage losses from the canal and thus augment the existing supplies of water. It may also be possible to harness the river Sind for the creation of irrigation facilities extending over an area of 4,50,000 acres of land and generation of electricity to the extent of 10,000 k.w. at 60 per cent Load Factor. According to present estimates the project is likely to cost Rs. 1,600 lakhs and would benefit the districts of Gwalior, Datia and Shivpuri.

The following table shows the net irrigated area and the different sources of irrigation in the district :—



Net Area Irrigated

(Acres)

Year	Canals	Wells	Tanks	Other Sources	All Sources
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1950-51 .. .. .	73,537 (79.6)	9,093 (9.8)	8,515 (9.2)	1,239 (1.3)	92,404
1951-52 .. .. .	60,378 (79.4)	9,346 (12.2)	5,335 (7.0)	1,008 (1.3)	76,067
1952-53 .. .. .	81,195 (82.2)	9,243 (9.4)	7,194 (7.3)	1,126 (1.1)	98,758
1953-54 .. .. .	41,698 (71.7)	10,058 (17.3)	4,663 (8.0)	1,713 (2.9)	88,132
1954-55 .. .. .	64,970 (78.4)	11,762 (14.1)	4,772 (5.8)	1,410 (1.7)	82,914
1955-56 .. .. .	76,837 (80.4)	11,896 (12.4)	5,613 (5.9)	1,275 (1.3)	95,621
1956-57 .. .. .	79,681 (78.3)	13,819 (13.6)	6,859 (6.7)	1,469 (1.4)	1,01,828
1957-58 .. .. .	88,726 (82.1)	13,516 (12.5)	4,887 (4.5)	958 (0.9)	1,08,087
1958-59 .. .. .	94,945 (81.6)	11,869 (10.2)	8,041 (6.9)	1,445 (1.2)	1,16,300
1959-60 .. .. .	98,781 (80.0)	14,368 (11.6)	8,880 (7.2)	1,613 (1.3)	1,23,642

Note—Figures in brackets indicate percentage area irrigated by that source in a year.

The table given above shows that the net area irrigated in the year 1950-51 was 92,404 acres which slowly rose, with marked interruptions to 95,621 acres in 1955-56. This was mainly due to the scanty rainfall during these years which resulted in the shrinkage of water supplied from rivers, tanks and wells. In subsequent years, the progress of irrigation has been well maintained. In the year 1959-60 irrigated area reached the figure of 1,23,642 acres.

Considering the irrigated area in relation to cropped area, in the year 1950-51, only 21.2% of the cultivated area was under irrigation. In 1955-56, this percentage dropped to 19.1 but it increased to 23.1 in 1958-59, and to 24.4 in 1959-60.

In Gwalior district Pichhore tahsil enjoys the irrigation facilities to the largest extent. Not only is the total irrigated area the highest, but also the percentage of cultivated area having irrigation. Gird tahsil is left far behind in this matter. Irrigated area is negligible in Bhandar tahsil



Canals, wells and tanks are the principal sources of irrigation in the district. As amongst them, canals contribute the largest share of irrigated area, being about four-fifths. Canal irrigation is mostly resorted to in Pichhore tahsil. The canal system of irrigation was introduced in the year 1916-17, and since then it has been playing an important role in the development of agricultural economy of the district.

Wells irrigate about a tenth of the cultivated area of the district. In the year 1954-55 there were 4,056 wells so used for irrigation in the district, all of which were private and pukka. They were distributed as shown below : —

**Well Irrigation 1954-55**

Tahsil	No. of wells	Area Irrigated (acres)	Area irrigated per well (acres)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Gird ..	2,360	6,905	2.9
Pichhore ..	1,291	4,062	3.1
Bhander ..	405	795	2.0
District	4,056	11,762	2.9

Most of these wells are in Gird tahsil, but the highest irrigation capacity of the wells is in Pichhore tahsil.

Tanks play only a minor role in the irrigation system of the district, confined to only about 5.6 per cent of the irrigated area. In 1954-55 the total number of tanks being used for irrigation was 520 out of which 267 were in Pichhore, 203 in Gird and 50 in Bhander. They irrigated 2,985 acres in Pichhore, 1,581 acres in Gird and 206 acres in Bhander.

Age old methods of lifting water are still in vogue. However, in recent years persian wheels are coming into increasing use. Water pumps have also been introduced. In the year 1961, 81 oil engines with pumps and 43 electric pumps were enumerated. As against them, 1,864 persian wheels and 1,289 *motes* were also being used for irrigation.

**Irrigated Crop\*.**—Wheat and paddy are the principal irrigated crops of the district. Considered absolutely in terms of irrigated acreage, paddy with 49,545 irrigated acres, *i.e.*, 38 per cent of the total irrigated area of the district takes the first place, followed by wheat with 44,066 acres or 34 per cent of the total irrigated area. Sugarcane had 15,237 irrigated acres and gram had 11,380 irrigated acres, *i.e.*, 12 per cent and nine per cent respectively of the total irrigated acreage. This was the situation obtaining in the year 1959-60.

In 1950-51 wheat had the largest irrigated area, *i.e.*, 36,267 acres, followed by paddy with 28,178 acres, gram with 14,195 acres and sugarcane with 8,608 acres. Although wheat has generally commanded the largest irrigated area, statistical table reveals that over the long period of years irrigation has not been

\*See Appendix XI.



extended to wheat cultivation to any appreciable extent. Paddy has gained at the expense of wheat. Area irrigated under gram crop has registered a decline except for a small rise in 1952-53. It is clear that the benefit of irrigation has gone almost wholly to food crops. The irrigated area under non-food crops is small and has declined in acreage also.

If we relate the acreage under irrigation to the total acreage under a particular crop, we see that sugarcane is a wholly irrigated crop. More than 95 per cent of the paddy crop is being raised as an irrigated crop. Irrigation covers about a quarter of the wheat crop, but in 1950-51, the coverage was one-third. About one-tenth of the area under gram is irrigated. The situation has continued to be more or less the same during 1950-51 to 1959-60. A noteworthy point of significance is that irrigation is resorted to more as a means of meeting the exigencies of insufficient rainfall, than as a normal and regular practice to raise more than one crop in the same year or grow crops where none would have grown before.

**Soil Erosion.**—Problem of soil erosion in general exists throughout the Gwalior district. It is seen in very marked stage along *nallas* and river banks where light and medium size gullies varying in depth have been formed. Lands under gullies are generally out of cultivation. Lands above them called 'Marginal lands' which are also heavily eroded and undulated although unfit for cultivation are generally kept under plough. Top lands which are generally level are not eroded to any marked degree though continue to suffer from soil losses.

The State Government has undertaken the following soil conservation schemes in the district :—

- (i) Bunding of level of lightly sloping lands. This prevents washing away of soil to a very large extent and retains most of rain water on lands thus helping in better crops.
- (ii) Gully control works by constructing check bunds with waste-weirs wherever necessary. These bunds allow retention of water and soil whereby lands can be reclaimed and brought under cultivation in due course of time.

Expenses involved in the bunding measures are about Rs. 50 per acre and in gully control works about Rs. 500 per acre. Gully lands where reclamation cost per acre is on the higher side are considered unfit for reclamation for agricultural purposes and should be kept under forests.

So far little work has been done in Gwalior district. During the first two Plans contour bunding operations covered only 1,054 acres. Work on extensive scale is planned for the Third Plan period.

**Water Potential.**—Ground water is an important source of water provided such potential is ample and exploitable. Dug wells drawing their supplies from ground water are more important in the rocky terrains. No specific data are available regarding ground water level in the northern alluvial areas. But from observations of contiguous alluvial tracts of trans-Jamuna-Chambal basins, we may conclude that the levels should be around 15 to 45 feet below land



surface. In Gwalior-Morar area the water level in dug wells varies from 17 to 47 feet and one tube-well sunk upto 175 feet in the alluvium, its working level being 160 feet below surface. The dug wells generally yield 15 to 20 thousand gallons of water per day, so development of tubewells is feasible on a small scale in alluvial parts where alluvium is of reasonable thickness.

### Soils

The district has the alluvial group of soils which are quite fertile and have fairly deep calcareous horizons occurring at different depths. The colour varies from grey to brown with different shades. The texture is from light to medium to heavy grains. Mostly the soils are well drained. The alluvium is a part of Indo-Gangetic alluvium. This is of varying thickness in the district and increases as we proceed away from Gwalior to the north and is of wider distribution as well towards the north-west, north and north-east parts of the district. In Morar itself the alluvium is more than 70 feet thick.

**Distribution.**—The western and central parts of the district are hilly and bushy. The soils in Singapore, Ghatigaon, Aron and Mohana are shallow, gravelly and light textured, having brown to reddish colour, and are poor in fertility. The north-eastern and south-eastern parts consisting of a portion of Morar and Pichhore tahsils are fairly plain, light to medium textured with loamy sand, sandy loam, loam grey brown, pale brown and yellowish brown. They are poor in nitrogen but fairly well supplied with phosphorous and potash.

The southern-western portions comprising parts of Bhitwarwar and Pichhore have medium to heavy texture with sandy loam, loam, clay loam and clay grades. The colour varies from grey to dark grey and pale to yellowish brown. They are poor in nitrogen, medium in phosphorous contents and well supplied with potash.

**Soil Classification.**—The whole district except Bhandar tahsil is covered by undifferentiated alluvial soils. In Bhandar tahsil mixed red and black soils are found. Mr. Pendelton, who was the first full-time Director of Agriculture in Gwalior State, undertook an analysis of the soil in 1947 and divided Gwalior soils into—(i) Gwalior silt loam, (ii) Morar clay loam, (iii) Susera silt loam, etc. In the major part of the district, the soils are locally called *Parwa* (sandy loam soils), *Domat* (clay loam soils), and *Mar* (clay and deep soils). In some areas local names such as *Johar*, *Bhood*, *Urra*, *Karmati*, *Raker*, *Khader*, *Kabar*, *Roha* are also common.

**Soil Fertility.**—In order to assess the fertility of the soils. Agricultural Research Institute, Gwalior, analysed 966 soil samples ending June 1959 and it is reported that most of the soils are normal in reaction and in the total soluble salts content. It was also found that a high percentage of soils are low in nitrogen content but high in Potassium Oxide content and 27 per cent of soils are high in Phosphorus Pentoxide content. The remaining ones are either medium or low in Potassium Oxide content.



The soils are suitable for growing cereals, wheat, *jowar*, paddy, gram, sugarcane and cotton. In very light soils, groundnut is grown on a very small scale. Wheat is grown on almost all types of soils in the district under irrigated conditions. *Jowar* and gram are grown on extensive areas under un-irrigated conditions. Sugarcane also occupies a fairly good portion of the irrigated tract.

### Crops

The district of Gwalior belongs to *Jowar*-wheat zone of the State, though rice is also a major crop of the district.

The district has two main crop seasons, *viz.*, *Kharij* and *Rabi*. The sowings of *kharij* crops, extend over early June to mid-August. The harvesting of *kharij* crops starts from the middle of August and continues upto middle of January. The *tur* (*arhar*) crop, of course, remains in the field for a longer period and the harvesting of its late variety prolongs right upto the close of April.

The sowing of *rabi* crops starts from October onwards and continues upto early December. The *rabi* harvests extend over mid-December to April end.

The crops come in the market as soon as the harvests begin and the marketing activities remain in full swing until the farmers have disposed of their surplus.

The following table shows the sowing, harvesting and marketing seasons of some important food and cash crops grown in the district:—

Food Crops	Sowing	Harvesting	Marketing
Rice .. .. .	July and August	October and November	December
Jowar .. .. .	July	November	December
Wheat .. .. .	October	March and April	May and June
Cash crops	Sowing	Harvesting	Marketing
Sesamum .. .. .	July	November	December
Linseed .. .. .	October	March	April
Sugarcane .. .. .	February and March	December and January	December and January
Potato .. .. .	September	November	November

**Cultivated Area.**—During the last ten years the area under cultivation, *i.e.*, net area sown has shown continuous increase. It rose from 4.36 lakhs acres in 1950-51 to 4.83 lakh acres in 1956-57. There was a slight shrinkage in 1957-58, but it shot up to 5.07 lakh acres in 1959-60.



Area sown more than once has also exhibited the same phenomena though the tendency is not so continuous. It increased from 0.24 lakh acres in 1950-51 to 0.35 lakh acres in 1958-59, though the intervening years have shown considerable variations. There was a slight recession in the years 1951-52 and 1952-53, an upward trend in 1953-54 and then the area dropped to 0.21 lakh acres only in 1954-55, which is the lowest on record in the period 1950-51 to 1958-59. In the subsequent year there was a sudden spurt and the area went upto 0.36 lakh acres in 1959-60.

The gross cropped area has also increased continuously from 4.60 lakh acres in 1950-51 to 5.12 lakh acres in 1956-57, though a slight downward trend was noticeable in 1954-55 and again in 1957-58. The area went upto 5.43 lakh acres in 1959-60.

Double cropped area was only five per cent in the years 1950-51 to 1953-54, six per cent in 1955-56 to 1957-58 and seven per cent in 1958-59. The strikingly small ratio of the double cropped area to the net area sown is due to the inadequacy of irrigation facilities in the district.

Gwalior is mainly a food crops producing district. During 1959-60, 92.3 per cent of the total cropped area was devoted to food crops, and 7.7 per cent to non-food crops. Acreage and out-turn of some important crops are shown in Appendices XII and XIII.

**Wheat.**—This is the most important crop of the district. Wheat contributes the largest share to the total cropped area of the district, and accounted for 33 per cent of the total cropped area of the district in 1959-60. The area under wheat is the largest in Pichhore tahsil. Wheat area increased from 1,08,406 acres in 1950-51 to 1,61,596 acres in 1957-58 and 1,77,882 acres in 1959-60. During the period 1950-51 to 1957-58 the outturn which shows an erratic trend decreased from 41.4 thousand tons to 34.4 thousand tons. Area and production of wheat in the quinquennium ending 1958-59 were 1,64,000 acres and 43,300 tons, respectively. The yield, as revealed from crop cutting experiments, was 956 lbs. per acre in the year 1959-60.

**Jowar.**—Jowar is the most important kharif crop and second in importance to wheat amongst all the cereal crops of the district, accounting for 14 per cent of the total cropped area in 1959-60. The largest jowar area is concentrated in Pichhore tahsil. Jowar area registered continuous increase from 1950-51 to 1954-55, after which there was continuous decline interrupted by a slight improvement in 1957-58. In 1958-59 acreage touched the lowest mark during the period 1950-51 to 1958-59. This decline may be partially due to the tendency of the farmers to devote larger area to the production of commercial crops and finer cereals. However, in 1959-60 there was a slight increase in the acreage under jowar, which rose to 76,193 acres. Though the outturn of the crop shows an erratic trend, the production was 12.3 thousand tons in 1950-51 and 19.5 thousand tons in 1959-60. Area and production of jowar have averaged at 88,600 acres and 21,000 tons respectively, during 1954-55 to 1958-59. The average yield of jowar on the basis of the results of crop cutting



experiments, was 954 lbs. per acre in 1959-60. The total output during 1959-60 showed a striking increase, and amounted to 32.3 thousand tons as against 19.5 thousand tons in 1958-59.

**Rice.**—The area under paddy was 9.5 per cent of the total cropped area of the district in 1959-60. Paddy cultivation has increased during the last 15 years, perhaps due to the availability of irrigation facilities and the relatively higher price of rice. The area under paddy which was 31,923 acres in 1950-51 rose to 36,466 acres in 1953-54 and to 37,785 acres in 1957-58. It fell slightly to 37,137 acres in 1957-58 but rose to 48,028 acres in 1958-59 and 51,761 acres in 1959-60. Production of rice increased from 5.5 thousand tons (1950-51) to 25.9 thousand tons (1959-60)—almost a fourfold increase. Pichhore tahsil has the largest share of the paddy area of the district. Area and production of rice for the quinquennium 1952-53 to 1956-57 were 28,400 acres and 13,900 tons respectively. The average yield of the rice was 1,178 lbs. per acre in the year 1959-60.

Amongst the cereals, *bajra*, *maize*, *barley* are relatively unimportant crops occupying only 3,220 acres, 438 acres and 8,033 acres in 1958-59.

**Gram.**—This is the most important pulse grown in the district and covered 22 per cent of the total cropped area in 1958-59. Among the tahsils of the district, the largest gram area is in Pichhore tahsil, Bhandar tahsil closely following. The area under gram stood at 1,19,651 acres in 1950-51. During the three subsequent years the acreage increased until it reached the figure of 1,20,573 acres in 1959-60 which was higher than the 1950-51 level. However, the production has increased from 25.5 thousand tons in 1950-51 to 33.6 thousand tons in 1957-58 and 59.3 thousand tons in 1958-59. This rise in production, inspite of a decline in area, can be accounted for by an appreciable increase in yield rates. The five yearly averages (1952-53 to 1956-57) of area and yield of gram were 1,12,300 acres and 22,700 tons. Gram is consumed both as cereal and pulse. An appreciable portion of gram is sown mixed with wheat or linseed. The yield of gram was recorded as 488 lbs. per acre during 1959-60.

**Tur.**—This is another pulse grown in the district but not so important as gram. An area of 12,064 acres was sown with *tur* in 1958-59. *Tur* growing area is almost equally distributed amongst the three tahsils of the district.

**Sugarcane.**—Sugarcane cultivation increased from 8,620 acres in 1950-51 to 15,257 acres in 1959-60. There has been a noticeable upward trend since 1955-56 in sugarcane cultivation. The opening of the Harsi Canal system and the establishment of a sugar factory at Dabra provided an impetus to the cultivation of this important commercial crop in the district. The area under sugarcane was 9,000 acres in the quinquennium 1952-53 to 1956-57 and production was 1,500 tons during the same period. Pichhore tahsil is the major producer of cane in the district. Incidentally Gwalior district was the largest producer of sugarcane in the whole State in the period from 1950-51 to 1958-59 except in the year 1954-55 when Morena and Sehore surpassed Gwalior by a small margin.



**Potato.**—Gwalior district also ranks as an important producer of potato in the State. The area under this crop was 2,436 acres in the year 1958-59, the third highest in the State. Potato production is almost wholly concentrated in Gird tahsil.

**Sesamum.**—Sesamum is the most important oilseed crop of Gwalior district. In 1958-59 it occupied 30.8 per cent of the total area under 'All Oilseeds' and 2.0 per cent of the total cropped area of the district. The acreage under sesamum has steadily fallen since 1950-51, except for the year 1951-52. From 36,402 in 1950-51, the area has declined to 13,892 acres in 1957-58 and 12,536 in 1959-60 and production has dwindled from 3.7 thousand tons in 1950-51 to 0.5 thousand tons in 1958-59. The average area of sesamum during 1952-53 to 1956-57 was 28,200 acres and average production was 3,200 tons during the same period. Its yield rate was 175 lbs. per acre in 1959-60. The major portion of the sesamum crop comes from Pichhore tahsil, the next sizeable production being in Gird tahsil. Sesamum is an important source of edible oil and can be grown even on poorer, lighter and medium mixed soil, and yet its area has declined sharply. This crop is very much susceptible to vagaries of nature and only resistant and better yielding varieties can thrive satisfactorily.

**Linseed.**—Linseed emerged as the most important oilseed crop of the district during 1958-59, accounting for 38.5 per cent of the area under 'All Oilseeds' in that year. Its area dwindled steadily from 1950-51 (12,101 acres) to 1954-55 (5,784 acres) and showed an upward trend in the subsequent years being 9,837 acres in 1957-58 and 11,322 acres in 1959-60. Production of linseed amounted to 0.9 thousand tons in 1957-58 and 1.5 thousand tons in 1959-60 as against 1.4 thousand tons in 1950-51. Quinquennial average area and production of linseed during 1952-53 to 1956-57 were 8,300 acres and 1,000 tons, respectively. Linseed area is almost equally shared by Pichhore and Bhandar tahsils. Its production in Gird tahsil is negligible.

### **Agricultural Implements**

The cultivators in the district mostly use the simple agricultural implements that they have been accustomed to use in the past. The most important are the *hal* or plough driven by a pair of yoke oxen, *bakhar* or harrow, *patela* or leveller and *nai* or seed drill—hollow bamboo surmounted by a cup which is attached to the plough for regulating the seed while sowing. The *phawara* or spade, *khurpa* or hoe, *daranta* or sickle are also used by the farmers.

Ploughs of two different designs are in vogue in the district. The plough used in the alluvial soils of Gwalior, Dabra and Ghatigaon is heavier, and the front shoe piece and half of the body of the plough are made from the one bent piece of wood, and is connected to the part by the rear end of the beam. The design is peculiar and differs from the common design found in other parts of the State. The other design of the plough used in the light soils of Bhandar



tahsil which is adjacent to Bundelkhand tract of Uttar Pradesh is lighter and similar to that prevalent in Bundelkhand area. The small straight front shoe piece in this design is fixed at the lower end of the body. The plough is used comparatively more in alluvial soils particularly for *rabi* sowings while its use is much less in Bhandar tahsil where soil is black. The Gwalior and Bhandar ploughs cost Rs. 18 and Rs. 16, respectively. The use of iron ploughs is gaining popularity in the district as may be seen from the fact that during the decade 1951-61, while the wooden ploughs increased from 44,493 to 46,514, iron ploughs increased from 576 to 12,134. The *bakhar* of harrow commonly in use is similar to the one found in the southern districts of the State. It costs about Rs. 22 each and is used frequently in Bhandar tahsil for preparing fields for *kharif* and *rabi* sowing while it is not used much in Gwalior tahsil. The *patela* is a simple wooden plank similar to what is commonly found in Northern India and is used for levelling and crushing clods. It is not used in the black soils of Bhandar. The medium size *patela* costs about Rs. 15 to Rs. 16. *Nai* is used only for *rabi* sowing and it costs about Rs. 8 to Rs. 18.

A workshop of the Agricultural Engineer is attached to the Central Research Farm at Gwalior where experiments are conducted to improve the indigenous agricultural implements, but generally speaking, the older type of implements are even now preferred to the modern tools by the cultivators. This is partly owing to their being cheaper and to their being more easily repaired at a nominal cost. The improved implements which are mostly made of iron are neither available easily in villages nor could be readily repaired. The farmers also find it difficult to operate some of the modern implements and tend to be sceptical of their utility.

Large scale mechanization is not prevalent among the farmers to any considerable extent. Only a few substantial farmers, particularly some 60 to 70 cultivators in Dabra area possess tractors and practise mechanized farming. The only improved implements and equipment in vogue are ridgers, bund formers and oil pumps.

### Seeds and Manures

The well-to-do cultivators usually produce their own seeds and preserve them for the next sowing, while the less well-to-do obtain seeds from local merchants or from the more prosperous cultivators. The farmer of limited means borrows seeds on *Sawaibadhi* or *Doonibadhi* basis from the village money-lender, on condition that he repays either 25 per cent or some times even 50 per cent more of the quantity borrowed. The seed obtained from the village money-lender is generally of mixed quality and there is no guarantee of its purity. The Agriculture Department, Co-operative Societies, and Planning Department (Community Development), however, have schemes to supply pure seed to cultivators, but this can meet only a fraction of the demand.



Work relating to the improvement of seeds is being carried on in the district since the establishment of the Central Experimental Farm, Gwalior, in the year 1916. Efforts have been concentrated on the evolution of improved varieties of seeds of wheat, linseed, potato, *jowar*, sesamum, gram and pulses. The Crop Botanist first undertakes the selection and improvement of seeds and the varieties found suitable and promising after various trials over a period of at least five years are transferred to the Central Farm for further observations and trials on field scale, after which they are recommended to the propaganda staff for distribution to cultivators and for multiplication on demonstration plots. Multiplication is further carried on seed growers' plots under proper supervision to meet the local demand. As the State Farms cannot cope with the entire demand of improved seeds, the agency of 'Registered Seed Growers' has been evolved.

In regard to fruit trees and vegetables, the guava, lime, *ber* and papaya plantations are mostly from seeds. A large percentage of the mango trees is grafted and is of superior quality, though the area under mango is very small. The cultivation of fruits and vegetables is essentially concentrated around the city of Gwalior and tahsil headquarters and some of the large villages. Indigenous vegetable seeds are locally raised, while the seeds of others like cauliflower and cabbage are obtained from outside the State.

Since 1955, a nursery has been established at Gwalior for the supply of pedigree seeds and seedlings of local vegetables and also to test seeds of the vegetables which are not grown here successfully. The nursery sells certified seeds and seedlings at moderate rates to the cultivators.

Potato cultivation is rapidly increasing in the district and pedigree seed of improved varieties is now grown locally. It is available all the year round from the cold storages at Gwalior. Pedigree fruit plants are also being produced from selected trees and are sold to the growers.

A horticulture research section was established at the Agriculture Research Institute, Gwalior in 1956 to evolve improved practices and introduce new fruits and tackle the problems of the fruit growers.

**Rotation of crops.**—The principle of the rotation of crops for increasing the fertility of the soil is widely known in the State among the cultivators, although they do not practise it systematically. Virgin soil is usually sown first with *till* followed by *kodon*, *kutki*, and *jowar*. The pattern followed usually in different classes of soils is given below:—

Class of soil	Irrigated/dry	First year	Second year	Third year
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Mar and Kabar	Irrigated	Wheat with rape seed	Sugarcane	Sugarcane (ratoon) Wheat with rape



(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
	Dry	1. Wheat 2. Wheat 3. Wheat	Gram Linseed and gram together <i>jowar</i> and <i>Tur</i>	Wheat Wheat  Fallow
Parua .. ..	Irrigated	Wheat with rapeseed	Sugarcane	Sugarcane (ratoon) or Wheat with rape-seed
	Dry	Gram or gram with rape - seed	<i>jowar</i> , <i>Bajra</i> with <i>Tur</i> .	Gram or gram with rape- seed
Dumat .. ..	Irrigated	Wheat with rape seed	Sugarcane	Sugarcane (ratoon) or Wheat with rape seed
		Gram	<i>jowar</i> or <i>jowar</i> with <i>Tur</i>	Gram

The cultivators generally practise manuring on fields reserved for special crops such as sugarcane, garden produce, wheat and barley. The commonest forms of manure are cowdung and village sweepings. Manure is also obtained by herding goats and sheep on fields at night. Though not to a large extent the cultivators use green manure on their fields and are encouraged to use it more generally. Night soil is seldom used except in the vicinity of large towns.

The Agriculture Department has been steadily popularising the use of compost, farm-yard manure, green manure and artificial fertilizers, mainly nitrogenous and phosphatic ones, by recommending suitable manurial doses to each cultivator after testing cultivator's soil samples. Heavy doses of compost and farm-yard manure as a rule and chemical fertilizers, whenever available, are applied by the vegetable growers, while the fruit growers generally use little or no manure because some harvest is obtained even without manuring. Experiments on the economic utility of manuring are being conducted and demonstrated by the Agriculture Department to convince the growers.

#### Agricultural Diseases and Pests

One direction in which the research section of the Agriculture Department is earnestly engaged is that of remedying the diseases to which the crops in the district are subject and of extirpating the pests that attack the different crops. A Plant Protection Unit has been in existence at Gwalior since 1950-51 equipped with mobile units for combating the attack on crops by insects and pests. This Unit is deployed for fumigating the plants and stored grains, dusting disinfectants, destroying the white ant colonies and combating locust swarms. The services of the Unit are available for cultivators for the protection of their grain stores and fields. The common



diseases to which the main crops in the district are susceptible are the following :—

**Wheat.**—The usual diseases are rust, smut, and footrot. In order to eliminate rust, seeds of resistant varieties, e.g., N. P. 710, are being used, while to root out smut solar heat treatment is given to the seed before sowing. For protection against the footrot, the seed is treated with organo-mercurial fungicide.

**Jowar.**—This crop has a tendency to be affected by grain smut. The usual method to eliminate it is by treating the seed with sulphur.

**Rice.**—The common diseases are blast, leaf-spot, and sclerosis. To counteract these diseases the seed is treated with organo-mercurial fungicide and by spraying with 0.6 per cent Bordeaux mixture. Sclerosis can best be eliminated by adopting rotation and clean cultivation.

**Sugarcane.**—The usual diseases are redrot and smut. For the former the remedies are to use seed of resistant variety and ensure good sanitation. For the latter clean cultivation and use of disease free seed are advised.

**Sesamum.**—The only disease to which this is subject is leafspot, which can be cured by clean cultivation and spraying crop with suitable fungicide.

**Linseed.**—It suffers from rust and virus. Both the diseases can be cured by the use of resistant varieties of seed. Besides, constant rogueing is recommended.

The common pests and insects which attack some of the important crops in the district and the measures usually adopted for preventing them are :—

**Wheat.**—Wheat crop is attacked by cutworms (*Agrotisypsilon*). This carterpillar also attacks gram, potato, tobacco and peas. The remedies are clean cultivation and dusting with five per cent BHC powder at the rate of 15-20 lbs. per acre. White ants (*Microtermes*) also damage wheat. They can be controlled by dusting the infested field with Aldrin five per cent at 20 to 40 lbs. per acre.

**Jowar.**—Jowar stem borer (*Chilo zonellus*) and jowar aphids are the major pests of jowar crop. Remedy for the former lies in uprooting and burning all plants showing 'dead hearts', using light trap and removing and burning stubbles after harvest. Dusting of the crop with 5-10 per cent BHC dust is usually recommended for the second pest.

**Gram.**—This crop is susceptible to the ravages of gram pod borer (*Heliothis armigera*). Remedial measures suggested are spraying with five per cent DDT and hand picking of the pest itself.



**Rice.**—Gundhy Bug (*Leptocorisa varicornis*) is the major pest which attacks paddy crop. It can be controlled by dusting of 5-10 per cent BHC.

**Sugarcane.**—Top shoot borer (*Scirpophaga nivella*), stem borer (*Chiloptera infescatellus*) and root borer (*Emmalocera depressella*) are the major pests of sugarcane though of a sporadic nature. They can be controlled by (i) ploughing cane field after harvest, (ii) collecting and burning the stubbles, and (iii) spraying of 0.25 per cent DDT after removal of dead hearts.

**Potato.**—Potato tuber moth (*Gnorimoschema operculella*) is a deadly pest of potato which attacks crop. In field, exposed tubers should be covered with earth while in the store house they should be covered with sand, after removing and destroying the infested tubers. Before storing, potato should be fumigated with petrol. Ten ounces of petrol will be necessary for 100 lbs. of potato in a space of 10 cft. Fumigation should be done for 18 hours.

**Agricultural Research and Education.**—Research and experiments for the improvement of agriculture were being conducted at Gwalior since 1916 when the former Gwalior State Government set up a Department of Agriculture in 1916. One of the institutions established under the Department was the Central Research Farm at Gwalior with a farm extending over 156 acres of alluvial soil. This functions as a research and seed multiplication farm for breeding superior varieties of wheat, linseed, potato, jowar, sesamum and pulses. It carries on agronomical, manurial, pathological and entomological work and conducts experiments on determination of seed rate, fertiliser tests, sowing tests, etc. The farm serves as the laboratory for the research undertaken by the Agricultural Research Institute established at Gwalior in the year 1919. This Institute which has steadily grown during the last more than 20 years has now separate sections of Agricultural Chemistry, Agricultural Botany, Entomology, Mycology, Horticulture and Agronomy, and a section devoted to Agricultural Statistics. Apart from these there is also a Sugarcane Research Centre at Dabra in Gwalior district, which is in the charge of a Sugarcane Agronomist. Brief notes are given below on the work being done by each of these sections :—

**Agricultural Chemistry Section.**—This section carries out Chemical analysis of soils, water, fertilizers, manures, feeding stuff, insecticides, of soils, water, fertilizers, manures, feeding stuff, insecticides, plant tissues, etc., and advises the cultivators regarding the application of various fertilizers and manures to their fields. It also conducts soil surveys and research on methods of analysis and supervises manurial trials being done in other parts of the State.

**Agricultural Botany Section.**—This section deals with the introduction, selection and isolation of pure types of breeds and hybridization of crops in order to derive strains which are better suited to the area and produce larger yields. The promising strains are multiplied and distributed to cultivators. Some of the major experi-



ments on varietal trials of crops are being performed in the Central Research Farm also.

**Entomology Section.**—It is the function of this section to conduct research on the pests of crops, test the efficacy of various pesticides and to advise the cultivators regarding the control of crop pests and suggest ways and means to eradicate them.

**Mycology Section.**—It carries on research on the crop diseases and suggests remedial measures to cure them.

**Agronomy Section.**—It studies cultural and manurial practice obtaining in the region and offers suggestions about the suitability of particular practices for the tract.

**Horticulture Section.**—It has propagated many fruit varieties in the district, specially papaya which was rare in the district. Similarly the production of vegetables of all varieties has increased as a result of the work done by this section. Healthy seedlings and saplings are also distributed to farmers in large numbers.

**Agricultural Statistics.**—This section was established in 1954 in order to render help to all the research sections in co-relating and interpreting the results in a scientific way.

Besides the Central Experimental Farm there is also the Farm of College of Agriculture, established in 1952. This has an area of 65 acres. The soil of the farm is sandy-loam and it serves as a demonstration centre for College students and as a research centre for members of staff and post-graduate students.

**Agro-Economic Research Centre.**—In pursuance of the Government of India's policy of promoting research in agro-economic problems in various parts of the country, an Agro-Economic Research Centre was set up at Sehore which was subsequently shifted to Gwalior on 20th May 1960. It is located within the premises of the College of Agriculture, Gwalior. The Centre covers the States of Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan.

The Centre is wholly financed by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Government of India, and is managed by an autonomous Governing Body. Principal, College of Agriculture, Gwalior, acts as Secretary to the Governing Body.

The Centre undertakes the following activities:—

- (a) To carry on continuous study on changes in rural economy by means of surveys on a number of selected villages each year, the survey to be repeated in the same group of villages at intervals of five years.
- (b) To conduct *ad hoc* investigations into problems in which the Ministry of Food and Agriculture is specially interested



- (c) To carry on research work on fundamental problems relating to the agricultural economy of the country.
- (d) To give technical advice to the Government of India and States of Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan on such issues, as with mutual agreement may be referred to the Centre.
- (e) To carry on research in rural sociology particularly in tribal areas of Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan.

The following is an account of the work done by the Centre :—

1. Continuous Village Studies—

- (i) Four villages near Bhopal.
- (ii) Four villages in Kotah district.

2. *Ad hoc* Investigations—

- (iii) Seven villages in Chambal Command area.
- (iv) Nine markets and 51 villages in Chhattisgarh area.
- (v) Itarsi and Raipur markets and 6 villages around each one of the markets [Market arrivals of Wheat and Rice (Paddy) in 1958-59 market season].

3. Research in Rural Sociology.—

- (vi) Some villages in Jhabua and Bauswada districts.

Research project No. (v) has been completed while No. (vi) is yet to start. Others are in various stages of completion.

**Agricultural Education.**—There are two stages at which agricultural education is provided at Gwalior. At the post-matriculation stage a diploma course is provided at the Krishi Vidyalyaya which was established in July 1947 for imparting a two-year course of scientific training in agriculture so as to meet the demand for trained junior agricultural personnel for the department. To this institution was attached, since 1954, a Basic Agricultural School for imparting a somewhat elementary training in agriculture and certain allied subjects to the village level workers. They are given a one-year course and awarded a certificate at the successful conclusion of the course. In order to give it a rural setting, this institution has now been shifted to Antri in Gwalior tahsil. At the degree and post-graduate stage agricultural education is imparted in the College of Agriculture at Gwalior which was established in 1950. An extensive agriculture farm is also attached to the College for purposes of experiment and demonstration.

**Demonstration.**—In order to demonstrate to the cultivators the advantages of improved methods of cultivation, Agricultural demonstrators have been put in charge of convenient groups of villages, called circle. The activities of the demonstrators relate to the distribution of improved varieties of seeds, preservation and use of cattle manure, introduction of improved implements, organisation of demonstration plots and arrangement of certified seed growers. The aim of the demonstration plots is to carry conviction to the cultivators about the advantages of improved seeds and implements over those in vogue.



The minimum area of a plot is one *bigha*—half *bigha* sown with improved seeds and half *bigha* with local seeds.

A new cadre of Agricultural Sub-Inspector was created in the year 1950-51 to form a link between District Inspector of Agriculture and Agricultural Demonstrator. This facilitated distribution of improved seeds, manures, fertilizers and agricultural implements.

The following activities are organised under the Agricultural Extension Works:—

1. Organisation of trial, demonstration and nucleus plots.
2. Multiplication of improved seeds.
3. Distribution of improved seeds.
4. Distribution of manures and fertilizers.
5. Demonstration and sale of improved agricultural implements.
6. Popularizing and preparation of village compost.
7. Distribution and plantation of fruit and timber plants.
8. Organisation of agricultural exhibitions and shows.

In order to popularise further the latest improvements in agriculture, a large section of the annual fair held at Gwalior in the months of December and January is devoted to agricultural demonstration. The College of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Institute and Soil Conservation and Agricultural Engineering Sections jointly organize the agricultural exhibition over an area of some 50,000 square feet where, besides the demonstration of statistical charts, graphs and maps and other agricultural articles, they also hold a vegetable and fruit competition and flower show.

### ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

**Livestock Population.**—In the cattle census of 1919-20 the total livestock population was reckoned to be 3,61,689. During the period of 20 years, from 1919-20 to 1939-40, it increased to 5,07,712. During the two subsequent cattle censuses there was decline in numbers, but in 1956, the cattle population touched the highest figure recorded, i.e., 5,22,664. In comparison to the figure in the year 1919-20, there was an overall increase of 44.5 per cent. The cattle population further rose to 5,74,119 according to the census of 1961. The composition of livestock population in the 1961 census was as below:—

#### Livestock Population, 1961

1 Cattle	..	..	..	308,962	} 416,665
2 Buffaloes	..	..	..	107,703	
3 Sheep..	..	..	..	53,337	
4. Goats	..	..	..	95,074	
Horses and Ponies	..	..	..	2,738	



6. Donkeys	..	..	..	2,431
7. Mules	..	..	..	261
8. Camels	..	..	..	214
9. Pigs	..	..	..	3,899
Total Livestock	..	..	..	574,119

The cattle form the major part of the livestock population in the district. In 1919-20 there were 2,04,045 heads of cattle, i.e., 56 per cent of the total livestock. In 1956 cattle stood at 2,80,467 and were 54 per cent of the livestock population of that year. Overall increase in cattle population during this period (i.e., 1919-20 to 1956) has been of the order of 37.4 per cent.

Buffaloes are comparatively not so important as the other cattle in the district, though their number is constantly increasing on account of their superior milk and *ghee* yielding capacity. They formed 13.1 per cent of the total livestock during 1919-20, but in 1956 this percentage went upto 19.4.

The pressure of livestock on land has been steadily increasing. Though there has been an increase in the area utilized for raising the fodder crops the situation is far from satisfactory. The following table indicates the livestock population, its pressure on land and the per capita availability of fodder crops :—

Year	Total livestock	Total Geographical area ('000 acres)	Pressure on land per acre	Fodder crops ('000 acres)	Fodder area per cattle
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1919-20	361,689	1,151	3.18	1.0	0.002
1924-25	378,426	1,090	2.99	1.4	0.003
1929-30	4,20,833	1,090	2.59	2.0	0.004
1934-35	4,30,766	1,090	2.53	4.3	0.009
1939-40	5,07,712	1,172	2.30	4.8	0.009
1944-45	4,91,604	1,191	2.75	4.6	0.016
1951	4,64,950	1,290	2.77	12.1	0.026
1956	5,22,664	1,290	2.46	7.5	0.014
1961	5,74,119	1,290	2.25	N. A.	N. A.

In addition to the acreage devoted to the production of fodder crops, a departmental farm of 70 *bighas* is maintained at Aron for growing gram required to feed the bulls kept at the Bull Rearing Farm, Aron.

**Dairy Farming.**—The supply of milk from the milch cattle in the district has not been adequate to meet the growing demand. While the rural population depends for its milk mainly on the domestic animals reared by them, the



urban population has to rely on the supply made in the towns by the milkmen from adjoining areas. A dairy farm was started in 1930-31 at Gwalior, named Gwalior Dairy Ltd., which imported some *Sahiwal* and *Murra* breeds of cattle, but the milk supplied by this farm does not meet even an appreciable part of the demand. One of the measures taken to increase the supply is to improve the breed of cattle.

**Improvement of Cattle.**—In order to improve the quality and breed of the animals of this area, the former Gwalior State started a small bull breeding farm at the Gwalior Central Farm in 1922 by obtaining one *Hariana* bull and 16 *Hariana* heifers from the Government Cattle Farm, Hissar. This stock was further strengthened by the addition of a herd of 16 *Sahiwal* animals purchased in January 1929 from Montgomery district of Punjab, a herd of 19 *Sindhi* animals of *Sindhi* breed purchased from Dhar State Farm, and 23 buffaloes of *Murrah* type purchased from Rohtak district of Punjab in December 1928. Selection work on the basis of milk yield in the animals of the different herds was conducted. Besides supplying bulls from these farms, good quality animals were also selected from district and tahsil cattle fairs and distributed to selected cultivators.

In 1953-54 a *Hariana* cattle breeding farm was started at Aron. This farm purchases young bull calves of required quality and rears them upto the age of 3 to 3.5 years and thereafter distributes them to the key village units and Gram Panchayats for improving the local breed.

Two artificial insemination centres are also functioning in the district. The Gwalior centre was established in March 1955 with six key village units at Purani Chaoni, Hurawali, Sonsa, Girgaon, Jalalpur and Badagaon, and the Pichhore Centre in 1956 with six village units at Chandpur, Badera, Akwai, Nimonia, Barotha and Dabra. The activities of these centres relate to the artificial insemination of cows and buffaloes, natural service to cows and buffaloes, castration and G.T.V., and H.S.V. inoculations. Promising calves born at these centres are paid subsidy so that they develop into quality animals.

According to an enactment of 1949-50, the Government has been empowered to castrate undesirable bulls in notified areas. Further, it has been laid down that bulls released for religious purposes should be of prescribed breed. Efforts have also been made to segregate unproductive and useless animals. Such a scheme was taken up during 1957-58, and animals are collected from different villages and transferred to Gosadan at Shivpuri.

As an incentive to improve the quality of breeds, cattle shows are arranged frequently and subsidies are granted for the purchase of bulls and calves and aid is given to *Gaushalas*. Further, cattle fairs are held every year to stimulate and to encourage the breeders to rear and breed healthy and productive cattle. The Gwalior Cattle Fair which takes place each year during December-January is quite an important occasion in the organisation in which both the State and the Central Government cooperate. During the fair a cattle show is arranged and the best cattle of different categories are awarded prizes. This competition has created healthy spirit of emulation amongst the cultivators and breeders who make an effort to rear and breed better quality of livestock.



### Animal Diseases and Veterinary Hospitals

The common animal diseases are rinderpest, foot and mouth, black-quarter, haemorrhagic septicaemia, surra, anthrax, rabbies, etc. None of the above diseases has taken any epidemic form recently because of the prophylactic inoculations against these contagious diseases.

A Civil Veterinary Department was organised in the Gwalior State during the year 1909. Its activities were confined to the management of stallions maintained by the Durbar in each district, supervision of cattle fairs held annually in the district, treatment of epidemic and other diseases of the cattle and diffusion of useful information amongst the cultivators about breeding of cattle and checking their diseases. Itinerant veterinary assistants were also entrusted with the duty of attending to the cattle diseases. They were entrusted with the work of castrating undesirable animals in their areas. A veterinary dispensary was opened at Lashkar during 1920-21 where cattle were treated both as in-patients and out-patients. Two more dispensaries were opened at Gwalior and Morar during 1938-39. Veterinary dispensaries were established at Bhitwar, Salon, Purani Chaoni, Alampur, Patai Barai, Ghatigaon, Utila, Mohana, Dabra, Pichhore and Bhandar.

One Mobile Veterinary Unit was established in Gwalior to cater to the needs of Gwalior Veterinary district. It conducts prophylactic inoculations before the out-break of epidemics and carries out treatment in inaccessible areas of the district.

In order to carry on research on the common diseases of livestock and for preparing small quantities of G.T.V. (Goat Tissue Virus) for rinderpest, the Vaccine and Research Institute was started in 1949. It progressed steadily and started producing H.S.V. (Haemorrhagic Septicaemia Vaccine) also on a small scale. Vaccines produced in the Institute were found to be inexpensive and efficacious. The Institute is divided into the following sections :—

- |                           |                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| (1) Virus Section.        | (2) Parasitology.        |
| (3) Media Production.     | (4) Serum Section.       |
| (5) Pathological Section. | (6) Mobile Unit Section. |

Biological products manufactured in the Institute are supplied free to veterinary dispensaries of the State. During the year 1958-59, following doses of these products were manufactured :—

Type (1)	Doses (2)
Goat Tissue Virus .. .. .	14,44,300
Anti-Rabic Vaccine .. .. .	1,63,940 c. c
Haemorrhagic Septicaemia Vaccine .. .. .	4,14,900
Anti-Rinderpest Serum .. .. .	1,75,600
H. S. Serum .. .. .	16,997
Black-quarter Serum .. .. .	6,264
Anthrax Serum .. .. .	6,866



### Sheep Breeding

The sheep reared in the district are of indigenous breed. While the animals are good suppliers of mutton, their wool is coarse, not very long in staple and not suitable for being used for superior varieties of woollen goods. The relatively long hot weather of Gwalior is also not conducive to a luxuriant growth of wool. Hence the woollen mills of Bombay do not find it profitable to purchase wool from this district. Some of it, however, finds a market in Kanpur due to the proximity of the town, which cuts down the transportation costs.

An attempt was made to set up a sheep breeding centre which was established at Sukhapata near Dabra, but it could not survive as the area was proved to be unsuitable for breeding sheep. In the private sector, shepherds maintain a large number of flocks of sheep but they produce a coarse variety of wool which is utilised for making ordinary blankets and carpets. To improve the quality of wool the Veterinary Department has taken up the grading up of the local female stock with the superior type of male stock of *Bikaneri* rams.

### Poultry Farming

The total number of poultry in the district in the year 1961 was 21,355 consisting of 20,821 fowls, 395 ducks and 139 others.

As a result of departmental propaganda people have established small units of poultry in the villages near about Gwalior city, and there appear to be good prospects of developing this industry in the district. The total number of poultry units which stood at 6,113 in 1951 has gone upto 13,375 during 1956, i.e., there has been an increase of 123.5 per cent during the five years.

Government has also sponsored poultry extension and demonstration centres in the district. Their activities include sale of eggs for hatching and table, and sale of birds for development and table.

### Fisheries

Gwalior district is one of the best fish producing areas in Madhya Pradesh. It has natural breeding grounds, about 15,700 acres of lacustrine (tanks and reservoirs) and 105 miles of riverine fishery resources consisting of six rivers. Indigenous commercial varieties of Carps, Cat Fishes, Murrels and Feather backs etc., made up a production of about 2.269 Mds. of fish during 1960-61 as compared to 1.593 Mds. during 1958-59 from both riverine and lacustrine resources.

From commercial point of view the following varieties of fishes are available in this district. Generally these varieties of fishes are available throughout the year. Their seasonal variations or fluctuations are so insignificant that they cannot be grouped or assigned to a particular period:—

#### Commercially Important Fishes

Scientific Names (1)	Local Names (2)
(1) <i>Catla Catla</i>	Bawas
(2) <i>Labeo rohita</i>	Rohu
(3) <i>Cirrhina mrigala</i>	Narain



(1)	(2)
(4) <i>Labeo Calbasu</i>	<i>Kyriant</i>
(5) <i>Barbus tor</i>	<i>Mahaseer</i>
(6) <i>Wallago attu</i>	<i>Launch</i>
(7) <i>Ophiocephalous marulius</i>	<i>Soul</i>
(8) <i>Notopterus notopterus</i>	<i>Patpla</i>
(9) <i>Notopterus Chitala</i>	<i>Moh</i>
(10) <i>Mystus Sunghala</i>	<i>Singhada</i>
(11) <i>Mastacembelus armatus</i>	<i>Ban</i>
(12) <i>Eutropichthys vacha</i>	<i>Vacha</i>
(13) <i>Heterophinenstes fossilis</i>	<i>Singhi</i>

The aforesaid fishes are generally found in abundance.

With the establishment of the Fisheries Office in 1949, the fish culture programme has been taken in hand on large scale. Culture of major carps which are fast growing and economical to rear, e.g., Rohu (*Labeo rohita*), Narain (*Cirrhina mrigala*), Bawas (*Gatta catla*), Kyriant (*Labeo calbasu*) and Mahaseer (*Barbus tor*), are being practised by the technical staff in the district.

The rearing of fishes is done in the tanks after obtaining fish seed. In the year 1952, a natural breeding ground was located near Banmor Railway Station which extends up to Nirooli village along the course of Orua nalla which meets the river down-stream after a distance of about ten miles. Fertilized eggs of major carps are collected in the months of July and August and are hatched in the double walled cloth happas of which the inner one is made of fine net cloth and outer cover of muslin cloth. Eggs are released in the inner box and hatch within 16 to 20 hours after breeding. After hatching, the hatchlings pass into the outer box where they remain for 24-36 hours and thereafter transferred to the nurseries for rearing. When they attain the size of three to four inches they are taken out for stocking purposes.

Gwalior has also got a fingerling collection centre near Susera village on river Sonrekha where they are collected in great number every year. A fish farm has also been constructed near Purani Jail on Gwalior-Bhind road during Second Five Year Plan period for rearing of fish seed and its distribution.

Spawn (hatchlings) is also obtained by breeding of fish in artificial environment. It is a technique recently introduced, by which fishes are bred by giving injection. The required injection is freshly prepared from the pituitary gland of fish in about 1.5 c.c. of distilled water. A dose of 0.8 c.c. is given to female and 0.6 c.c. to male. With this technique, it has been possible to breed *Cirrhina mrigala*, one of the important major carps.

There is a well-equipped research laboratory at Gwalior for conducting research work in fish development, i.e., biology of fish, their bionomics, rate of growth, habits, fluctuations in riverine catches, factors responsible for mortality of fry and fingerling etc. The findings are utilized in the solution of day to day



problems. Other activities for the development of fisheries include clearing and repair of tanks for fish rearing, extension of fisheries in rural area and organization of fishermen's co-operative societies.

The district has further scope of pisciculture on account of a number of reservoirs constituting thousands of acres of perennial waters and of the tributaries of river Chambal which flow through the district.

### FORESTRY

The forests cover an area of 272 thousand acres or 21 per cent of the total area of the district. The forests of the district had never been economically rich, because of the soil and moisture conditions of the region which are not conducive to luxuriant growth of vegetation. The rain fall of the district is meagre, being about 30 inches, and the soil is generally hard and shallow. The pressure of population, both human and animal has also hampered the growth of plants. The rich forests could not thrive owing to frequent fires and heavy grazing in the tract. They also suffered heavy depletion twice within the last 20 years or so, firstly during the last World War, when the prices of wood and timber soared high and trees were cut down ruthlessly, and secondly at the time of the impending zamindari abolition when the former proprietors felled trees indiscriminately for private benefit. At present the heavy pressure of grazing on forest land is causing further deterioration of the existing forests. But the prime cause of destruction of forests is the ruthless treatment meted out to them by man. There is land hunger in the district and those who possess land get such poor return that they have to augment their income by other means. Forests being near to villages fall an easy prey to their greed. The villagers in this region fell green trees illicitly, hide them in their houses and allow them to dry. After drying it is brought into the market on passes issued for collection of 'naturally dead and dry fuel wood' from forests. This has resulted in tremendous destruction. In the last two years a vigorous drive to stop this illegal and highly destructive practice has been launched by street checking. This has produced satisfactory results.

#### Forest Produce

The principal tree species occurring in the region are *Khair* (*Acacia catechu*), *Kardhai* (*Andgeissus Pendula*) and *Dho* (*Anogeissus Latifolia*). The forests, however, do not yield timber but produce fuel and grass which find an easy way to the nearest markets of Lashkar, Gwalior and Morar and the districts of Bhind and Morena.

The small size posts of *Kardhai*, *Khair* and *Dho* are, however, available in small quantities and are used by the villagers. Besides this, baskets are made from *Siyari*, and *Tattis* from thorns during summer season. Toys and packing cases are made from *Salai* wood, fans, brooms and mattings are manufactured from *Khajur* tree leaves. These cottage industries provide regular occupation to a few families.

In spite of poor forests in the district, a few forest-based industries have development in Gwalior city. Prominent among them are the Match Factory which uses *Semal* wood, the Tanning Plant of Gwalior Leather Factory, Morar.



and the Bobbins Factory of Taxmaco, Gwalior. Even as early as 1925 modest attempts were made to develop sericulture, rubber plantation, *kattha* factory, paper mill and distillation of essential oils. The experiments on sericulture and rubber plantation carried out at Janakta could not prosper due to climatic factors, although substantial expenditure was incurred. The manufacture of *kattha* and distillation of essential oils on an industrial scale were taken up by the Gwalior Chemical Company Ltd. (May, 1923) which had to be closed owing to interrupted supply of raw materials.

The yield and value of principal forest produce for the period 1935-60 are given below :—

Product	1935-45		1946-55		1956-60	
	Yield	Value Rs.	Yield	Value Rs.	Yield	Value Rs.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1. Timber ..	10,000 cft.	4,000	12,000 cft.	6,000	95,433 cft.	65,047
2. Fuel ..	80,000 mds.	90,000	80,000 cft.	50,000	42,04,130 cft.	6,67,468
3. Grass ..	10,000 carts	20,000	4,000 carts	10,000	2,71,217 carts	60,233
Total ..		1,14,000		66,000		7,92,748

### Measures to Secure Scientific Exploitation and Development

Attempt at scientific forestry in the district date from 1905 when the Forest Department was created. The forests that then came into its hands were heavily burdened with rights, the forest areas in the vicinity of towns were almost bare hills, the forest growth everywhere was crooked, knotty and affected by insects and parasites. The system of shifting cultivation was common and a good forest crop was reduced to ashes to raise a crop of *til* or *jowar*. The nearby population was used to free and unrestricted enjoyment of the forest. The Forest Department tried to put a check on these human depredations and regenerate and conserve the forest wealth. On the 1st of June 1905, a Committee was appointed by the Gwalior State Government to frame a Forest Code, and a Forest Act was enforced from the beginning of the year 1912-13 which helped in checking forest offences.

Systematic attempts for the improvement of forests were continued but it was only in the year 1940-41 that the preparation of a working plan of Gird district was taken up. It was sanctioned for the period 1943-44 to 1953-54. The enforcement of its prescriptions has resulted in the betterment of the growth of the forests.

A vigorous drive was started during the year 1943-44 in the direction of planting of trees in the district. Special sanction was accorded for two plantations—(i) Ramna-Susera plantation. (ii) Tekanpur plantation. Subsequently plantation work was also started at Gwalior Fort.



There is one forest nursery in the district extending over an area of two acres, with 323 beds in the nursery. Seedlings of *Shisham*, *Siris* and *Teak* are raised for departmental plantations and those of *Gulmohar*, *Eucalyptus* and *Kachnar* for *Vana Mahotsava*.

According to the recommendations of the Board of Economic Development, Gwalior State, a Forest Research Institute and Laboratory was established with an annual budget of Rs. 40,000 to be met out of the interest of the Forest Fund. The Institute worked till 1931 when it was closed down owing to financial stringency. At present the Jiwaji Industrial Research Laboratory, Gwalior, is carrying out some research on the economic aspects of some minor forest products. There is no Forestry School in the district.

#### STATE ASSISTANCE TO AGRICULTURE

The provision for assistance to the needy agriculturists exists in the Land Improvement Loans Act, 1883 and Agriculturists' Loans Act, 1884. Under these enactments loans to needy and poor agriculturists are advanced by the Revenue Officers as well as Block Development Officers for the purchase of bullocks, seeds, *rahats*, tractors, pumping sets, etc. These loans are advanced under the scheme known as 'normal schemes' and 'Grow More Food' schemes. The loans advanced under the normal schemes are given under the two enactments mentioned above. Under the Grow More Food Scheme, additional funds are placed at the disposal of the Collector for being advanced to needy cultivators on concessional rates of interest. Subsidy is also granted to the agriculturists up to one-fifth of the loans provided he utilises the loan for the purpose for which it was given within the prescribed time-limit.

**Cooperative Finance and Marketing.**—The former Gwalior State had established Agricultural Banks at the headquarters of the tahsils of the district in accordance with the Agricultural Banks Act in 1909, which were intended to extend State loans to needy cultivators for raising crops and effecting land improvements. On a review of the working of these banks, the State Government enacted the Cooperative Societies Act, 1918, under which Cooperative Societies and Central Cooperative Banks were established at the district and some pargana headquarters to replace the Agricultural Banks. But the Agricultural Banks also continued to function side by side till 1925, to help individual farmers who were not members of Cooperative Societies. Thus the Cooperative credit institutions at village level and at the district level commenced functioning from 1918. The operations of these societies have continuously expanded. The Agricultural Banks Act of 1909, was repealed in 1925. The assets and liabilities of the agricultural banks were transferred to the District Cooperative Banks and the financing of individual farmers outside the Cooperative Societies was discontinued.

At present the smallest units in this chain of cooperative finance are the Primary Credit Societies which usually cater to the needs of one single village. They supply short term and medium term credit to agriculturists for the purchase of seeds, fertilizers, livestock, etc. The number of such societies, as on 30th June 1958, was 410, having a total membership of 9,307. Large



sized societies came to be established in the beginning of the Second Plan. Such societies are expected to be self-supporting in the matter of finance and to help the agriculturists in all respects. During the year 1957-58, 11 such societies were functioning in the district with a membership of 2,045 persons. These two types of credit societies had advanced loans to the agriculturists to the tune of Rs. 18.89 lakhs and Rs. 2.83 lakhs, respectively, as on 30th June 1958.

In order to provide finance to the Cooperative Societies of the district, the District Cooperative Bank was set up on 19th July 1948. Its working capital now exceeds Rs. 24 lakhs. During the two years 1956-57 and 1957-58, it advanced loans amounting to Rs. 9.41 lakhs and 14.83 lakhs respectively, to member societies.

In the field of agricultural marketing a Cooperative Marketing Society was established at Morar and was registered on 25th February 1947. It undertakes the distribution of fertilizers in the tahsil on commission basis.

It may be worthwhile to note that cooperative financing and marketing have only touched the fringe of the problem of agricultural finance and marketing, and it will take some time before they are able to fully support the agricultural economy.

**Warehousing.**—The staying power of the Indian farmer is proverbially very poor. He is forced to dispose of his marketable surplus just after the harvest at whatever price he is able to get, which at such times would naturally be low on account of the large scale arrivals of agricultural produce in the market. Moreover the existing methods of storage of food grains and other agricultural produce are defective which result in appreciable but avoidable damage by insects, pests, termites and dampness. It was to strengthen the financial position of the farmer as also the trader and to give him the benefits of scientific storage and standardisation that the Madhya Pradesh State Warehousing Corporation was established by the State Government on February 19, 1958. The Corporation has set up three godowns in the district at Gwalior (January 1959), Dabra (November 1960) and Morar (April 1961), where the agriculturists and traders can hand over their food grains, oilseeds, spices and other agricultural produce and fertilizers for scientific storage, against which they are issued warehouse receipts. On the security of these receipts they can obtain loans from the State Bank of India and other Scheduled Banks. Since the scheme is only in its initial stages, it may be premature to make an attempt to evaluate its practical results.

## FAMINE

Until about three decades ago, the district had been subject to periodical visitations of scarcity and famine which used to cause widespread privation not to human beings only, but more especially to the cattle population. Such scarcity conditions, however, varied in intensity according to the vicissitudes of the monsoons and were usually of a local nature and scarcely assumed country-wide or state-wide magnitude.



The turn of this century witnessed Gwalior in the grip of a severe famine occasioned by the scanty rainfall of 1898-99 and 1899-1900. Gwalior was visited by another famine during 1905-06 as the rainfall was only a quarter of the normal quantity. Scarcity which deepened with the famine began to make itself felt in September and at the end of March, the numbers in receipt of famine relief grew enormously. There were outbreaks of cholera and small-pox during the cold weather, but due to elaborate medical arrangements, the number of deaths was not large. Severe scarcity of drinking water and of fodder also came in the wake of famine. Though no loss of human life on account of starvation was reported, the loss of cattle was very severe with the result that the livestock population was reduced by more than one half.

Scarcity conditions again developed during the closing years of the third decade of this century. During 1928-29 the rains started late, continued indifferently and ceased by the first week of September. As a result the *kharij* crops were damaged and though the winter rains brightened the prospects of the *rabi* crop, the subsequent frost seriously damaged it. Thus not only was the position bad in 1927-28, but it continued to be anxious in 1929-30 also. The rains stopped by the beginning of September and the winter rains also failed. Moreover there was an invasion by locusts. This marred prospects of a good *rabi* crop as well.

As a result of a succession of bad years, the former Gwalior State Government decided to issue a revised set of rules of the Famine Code so that distress could be mitigated promptly and ameliorative measures taken at the earliest possible moment. A special Famine Office was created to compile and keep up-to-date requisite information of various kinds and regulate the procedure for relief measures.

Besides the creation of this office, other relief measures were also taken which related to the following:—

- (1) Suspension and remissions of land revenue.
- (2) Throwing open State grass reserves for free grazing.
- (3) Opening of grass depots at suitable centres for selling grass to *bona fide* agriculturists at concessional rates.
- (4) Staying execution of civil and revenue decrees.
- (5) Advancing of *Taccavi* loans.

A Famine Fund was also instituted to provide relief to sufferers (apart from remissions and suspensions of ordinary revenue) and grants were made as occasions arose. This Fund was one of the largest funds set up under the financial policy of the former Gwalior State. The interest derived from the Fund was used to meet the extra expenditure necessary in a Famine year, which was the largest during the famine year of 1928. At present a regular famine programme is prepared each year by the Collector and sent to Government, so that appropriate action may be taken promptly in the event of any scarcity being felt.



## CHAPTER V

### INDUSTRIES

The existence of a variety of valuable raw materials in and around Gwalior district was taken advantage of from quite early times, and there are evidences to show that they were put to industrial uses in the past. The area is particularly rich in sandstone, clays, ochres and glass sand. There was also in the past a sizeable deposit of iron-ore. According to Abul Fazl, Gwalior in the time of Emperor Akbar was noted for its iron-ore and red clay.<sup>1</sup> During the Mughul period there was, presumably, a flourishing industry of iron-smelting in the district which is further borne out by the fact that a part of the Bijawar town, in Chhatarpur district, was known as Gwaliorganj for its having been inhabited by Muslims from Gwalior who were engaged in iron trade.<sup>2</sup>

The sand stone found in the region was a valuable building material at least from pre-Mughul days, the evidence of which is still to be seen in some of the architectural monuments that are in existence. The excellent skill of the workmen in using the sandstone for ornamental panels and carving is testified by the old buildings and mausoleums of the period, a good example of which is the tomb of Muhammad Ghaus in Gwalior which stands even now in a fine state of preservation.

Colonel Sleeman writing of his travels in Gwalior district in 1835-36 mentions how at Antri he found a sufficient quantity of salt manufactured. "The earth that contains most salt is dug up at some distance from the town, and brought to small reservoirs made close outside the walls. Water is here poured over it as over tea and coffee. Passing through the earth, it flows out below into a small conduit, which takes it to small pits some yards distance, whence it is removed in buckets to small enclosed platforms, where it is exposed to sun's rays till the water evaporates and leaves the salt dry."<sup>3</sup>

Most of these old industries have disappeared during the decades that followed due to several reasons. One of which was the uneconomic nature of some of these industries, and another, as in iron industry, the gradual exhaustion of the raw material. At the same time several new industries have sprung up and grown rapidly, assisted by the added resources of later science and the industrial policy followed by the State.

According to the 1951 Census the population of 'self-supporting' persons dependent on industries (which included textiles, hides and skins, wood and furniture, metals, ceramics, etc.) was 26,123 persons out of a total population of 530,229 in Gwalior district. The table below gives comparative position

1. Ain-i-Akbari, Tr. by H. Blochmann, Vol. I, p. 235; Vol. II, revised by J. Sarkar, p. 192.
2. Eastern States Gazetteer, Vol. VI, p. 304.
3. W. H. Sleeman, Rambles and Recollections, Vol. I, p. 338.



regarding the percentage of people dependent on industries during the last five decades:—

Year	Total population	Population dependent on industries	Percentage of (3) to (2)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1901 ..	3,98,788	24,164	6.13
1911 ..	3,21,025	27,586	8.59
1921 ..	3,34,139	19,514	5.84
1931 ..	3,72,303	30,467	8.18
1941 ..	4,49,919	23,259	5.16
1951 ..	5,30,299	26,123	4.73

These figures are not precisely comparable owing to the changes in the concept and classification of 'industrial' workers from time to time as well as changes in the economic classification of the population in the different census periods. Nevertheless, it appears to be clear that along with the steady growth of the total population from the year 1911, a corresponding growth is not observable in the population dependent on industries.

The industrial progress of Gwalior may be said to be the result of the policy adopted in this regard by Maharaja Madhav Rao Sindhia. Many of the industrial enterprises in the district, either directly undertaken by Government or encouraged and assisted by the State, owe their existence to the deliberate policy of industrial expansion followed by Madhav Rao Sindhia. He got a survey of the mineral resources of the State carried out in 1917. A Board of Economic Development was set up in 1920 which was expected to advise on all schemes of economic and industrial development, and coordinate all these activities.

Under the Durbar orders of the 20th August 1920 the establishment of industries was encouraged by offering certain concessions to the starting of industrial enterprises. For instance, in regard to spinning and weaving mills no customs duty was to be charged on the machinery imported for the mills. The land for erecting the mills was to be granted free if it belonged to Government, and in case it was Zamindari land the rent was to be paid by Government. The fiscal policy of the former Gwalior State was guided by considerations of what would benefit the local industries. In a statement issued in 1925 on his policy on customs and excise, the Ruler said, while levying new taxes we should not lose sight of the indirect advantages to be derived by subjecting a particular commodity to taxation or exempting it from duty. For instance, a light duty on machinery will help in extending its use. On such imported articles of daily use as are, and can be produced in the State, the duty should be high so that our people may be encouraged to manufacture these articles locally. It was in pursuance of this policy that in 1926 the Gwalior Potteries were granted exemption from customs and excise duty on all its imports and exports for a period of five years, and later extended to another period of ten years.



Apart from special concessions for assisting the establishment of industries, an important factor for the growth of industries is the availability of power supply. The earliest source of power supply in Gwalior district was the thermal unit set up in Gwalior in 1905 consisting of two steam turbines each with a capacity of 240 K. W. This was later augmented by the addition of two more sets, and power was supplied to some individual establishments, such as the Gwalior Engineering Works, the Gwalior Potteries, and the Government Press. In 1921 three more diesel generators were installed, each having a capacity of 960 K. W. As the sets were unable to cope with the growing demand, it was decided to erect a new power-house, and foundation stone of the present power station was laid on the 7th March 1929. The capacity of this power-house was steadily increased to meet the growing demand, and in 1948 the number of consumers stood at 3,495.

After the formation of the Madhya Bharat State in 1948, schemes for the expansion of the power-house and for the conversion of the D.C. to A.C. supply were undertaken, and by 1950 the power generated was 2000 K.W. In 1955 one more turbine and two boilers were added raising the installed capacity of the power-house to 4500 K. W. and the number of consumers rose to 6,827. The consumption of electricity for industrial purpose in the same year was 1.263 million K. W. hours.

## INDUSTRIES AND MANUFACTURES

Of the mineral resources of the district the most important is sandstone. The Bijawar and Vindhyan Systems have a variety of sandstone which vary in colour, fineness of grain and hardness. The sandstones were formerly quarried at Gwalior near Sagar Tal, and the extracted stones are used in buildings and in ornamental works after cutting and carving by the skilled local artisans. The clay deposits are found in fairly large quantities at Bela-ki-Baori, Santau and Antri. They are of fine quality and are used by the Gwalior Potteries Ltd., for pottery work and ceramics. Limestone is also found in the district in the Gwalior series, while fire-clay, suitable for making bricks, is found at Girwai about 35 miles south-west of Gwalior. The local clays mixed with limestone are used by the cement factory at Banmor, in the adjoining district of Morena. Ochres, both red and yellow, are quarried at several centres in the district such as Behat in Pichhore tahsil, Bhandauli and Raipur. The good quality ochre is used in the manufacture of paints and varnishes.

### Large scale Industries

There are three important textile mills in the district, all located at Gwalior, namely, the Jeewajirao Cotton Mills. Ltd., the Motilal Agarwal Mills and the Adarsh Cloth Mills. Between them they employed about 10,750



persons in 1955. The annual output of textiles in all these factories during 1959 and 1960 was:—

Year (1)	Cloth (2)	Yarn (3)
1959	.. 9,45,84,988 yards	1,93,12,351 lbs.
1960	.. 10,10,67,495 yards	1,84,71,533 lbs.

**Jeewajirao Cotton Mills, Ltd.**—This factory was established by Messrs Birla Brothers of Calcutta in 1921 with an authorised capital of Rs. 5.25 crores at Birla Nagar Gwalior. It has a paid-up capital of Rs. 4.64 crores. The Mills started in June 1923 with 692 looms and 24,572 spindles. This rose, in 1955-56, to 1,560 looms and 56,208 spindles, which employed about 6,800 workers. By the end of 1959 the number of workers employed in this concern was about 9,900.

The main varieties produced by the mills are longcloth, medium and coarse varieties of saris, fancy dhotis, medium variety of Italian and prints. These goods find a good market not only in the State but also in parts of Uttar Pradesh and Delhi. The mills produced 9.25 crore yards of cloth in 1955-56 and used 24,074 candies of cotton of 784 bales each. In 1959-60, an additional unit of 77 looms was installed for the production of cotton canvas cloth.

The mills have their own power-house for supplying power not only to the mills and all its sister concerns in the city, but also to the residential colony of the mill workers. The power-house also gives a bulk supply of 400 K.W. of power to the Gwalior town to augment the town's supply.

**Motilal Agarwal Mills Ltd.**—Before this spinning mill was acquired by Seth Motilal Agrawal of Agra in 1930, it had been known as the Gwalior Spinning and Weaving Mills. Established in 1923, this was auctioned in 1930 and purchased by the present proprietors, who re-started it as a purely spinning mill with an authorised capital of Rs. 7 lakhs employing 262 workers. By 30,984 maunds of yarn. The mill is worked by a 600 horse power steam engine and the progress has been kept up. It 1955 there were 15,252 spindles 1,740 of which were converted to doubling, and the production was about 65 thousand maunds.

**Adarsh Cloth Mills.**—The Adarsh Cloth Mills, Gwalior, is a weaving mill which produces mostly dhotis on its 24 power looms, and the calendering is got done from elsewhere.

It was started in the year 1943 with 18 power and 22 handlooms with 85 workers and produced 16,444 lbs. of cloth in the year 1950. Its authorised capital, during the year 1954-55, was Rs. 10,000. The working of the mills was interrupted and it remained closed from 1954-55 to 1958-59. They have subsequently started production again with about 25 workers.

**Gwalior Rayon Silk Manufacturing Co., Ltd.**—The Gwalior Rayon Silk Manufacturing Co., Ltd., was registered as a public limited company on 24th



August, 1947, under the managing agency of Messrs Birla Brothers with an authorised capital of Rs. four crores. It put its own building in Birla Nagar and started a Rayon Silk Weaving Factory with 50 looms. In the year 1951 the number of looms in the factory rose to 144 and by the year 1956 this was increased to 268 looms, and the production during 1955 was 29,04,264 yards of artificial silk. The present strength of workers is about 1,000. In 1959-60 one hundred looms were licensed for the production of art silk, and 14 looms for producing velveteen and tapestry goods. Both these units are now under production. The raw materials required for the manufacture of rayon, such as soft and hard wood, bamboos, grass, other seeds, etc., are mainly obtained from the district itself.

**Sugar Industry.**—The Gwalior Sugar Company Ltd., Dabra, is the only sugar factory in the district. After some tentative beginnings in the early part of the century, it was finally registered as a Joint Stock Company in August 1940. It changed hands in 1945 when the management was taken over by Messrs Sir J. P. Shrivastava & Sons (Private) Ltd., who became the Managing Agents. The Company has a paid-up capital of Rs. 27,68,900 and fixed assets valued at about Rs. 43 lakhs. The factory has a crushing capacity of 800 to 900 tons per day which has since been increased to 1,100 tons per day in 1959-60. The factory employs about 1,300 workers during the crushing season and about 400 persons in the off-season.

The factory is supplied with the cane partly grown in its own farm extending over 1,200 acres of land and partly in the irrigated land commanded by the Harsi Dam. In normal years, the factory is in a position to crush all the cane that is available in the area.

The year-wise production of sugar during the period of ten years, from 1948-49 to 1958-59, was as follows:—

Years (1)	Production in Maunds (2)
1948-49	1,21,188
1949-50	1,18,339
1950-51	1,64,027
1951-52	2,61,661
1952-53	1,35,749
1953-54	1,41,551
1954-55	1,08,853
1955-56	2,71,163
1956-57	3,96,319
1957-58	3,08,696
1958-59	1,98,825 ( due to shortage of sugar cane)



Besides sugar, the factory has also certain valuable bye-products, such as molasses, bagasses, etc., of which the production of molasses during the period of five years from 1954 to 1959 was as given below :—

Years (1)	Production in Maunds (2)
1954-55	37,800
1955-56	97,450
1956-57	1,34,350
1957-58	1,00,300
1958-59	67,100

**The Central India Machinery Manufacturing Company Ltd.**—Partly as a measure to meet the shortage in the supply of textile machinery during the last War, the Textile Manufacturing Corporation was established at Gwalior by Messrs Birla Brothers. The works at Gwalior (called Texmaco, for short) was established in 1953 with an authorised capital of Rs. one crore and started producing bobbins and shuttles, with a labour strength of 1,250 workers. In 1956 it was converted into a public limited company and renamed, Central India Machinery Manufacturing Company Limited (Cimmco, for short). The principal raw materials used in the factory are mild steel, pig iron, timber of different kinds, gunmetal and aluminium. Apart from bobbins and shuttles it manufactures looms, high speed winding machines, spinning rings and assorted spare parts required by the textile industry.

**The Gwalior Engineering Works, Gwalior.**—The present Gwalior Engineering Works developed out of what was a Palace workshop—a *Mistry-Khana* as it was known in the middle of the last century. This workshop was reorganised and enlarged in 1905 primarily to serve as the locomotive carriage and wagon workshop of the Gwalior State Light Railway, and renamed 'The Gwalior Engineering Works'. In 1910, its own buildings laid out in an extensive area, covering about 11 acres were completed. This workshop, besides its primary work, took up the production of standard weights and measures, and in 1917-18 it started manufacturing cane furniture. Later, it started manufacturing all kinds of engineering plants, tools, agricultural implements, iron and brass castings, general metal works, presentation articles, carts, tongas, ambulance, etc., and repairs of all kinds. During the last World War, it supplied ambulance stretcher, and other general engineering requirements to the Defence Department.

After the formation of Madhya Bharat, the Gwalior Light Railways (Later known as Scindia State Railway) were taken over by the Central Railways; but the workshop continued to be run by the Madhya Bharat Government. It is now a completely state-owned workshop, and apart from general repair work, its workshops are engaged in body building for the state-owned transport buses, mobile vans, tractors, trailers, etc. The workshop has started the manufacture of steel furniture, hospital equipments, plant protection pumps, steel gates for



dams, municipal carts, trollies, machine tools, heavy castings, etc. Besides, the workshop does the periodical overhauling of the Central Railway narrow gauge wagons and prepares other various spare parts for the various railways against orders. It has a paid-up capital of Rs. 26,73,744 and employs 376 persons, including technical and non-technical staff. The value of the work done and output by the concern in 1957 was Rs. 10,88,406 which included the work done for departments of Government.

**The Gwalior Potteries:**—The Government of the former Gwalior State engaged the services of an expert in 1910 to ascertain the possibilities of ceramic industry in the State by analysing and testing the various types of clays found in the area. To carry on the experiments a small unit was started, which gradually developed into a production unit with encouraging results.

In March 1913, Maharaja Madhav Rao Sindhia sanctioned the scheme for starting an Experimental Pottery Works here, and after the necessary machinery and equipments were imported from foreign countries, it started work from the beginning of the year 1915. With the object of developing the economic condition and efficient working of the unit and running it on a commercial scale, the Durbar transferred this institution in 1919 to the management of the Gwalior State Trust Ltd., a body also controlled by the Government of Gwalior State, and it was registered in the name of 'The Gwalior Potteries Ltd.' in the year 1920. Although the Gwalior State Trust Ltd., was later liquidated, the Gwalior Potteries Ltd., was able to stand on its own and started production on a commercial scale from the beginning of the year 1926. Earlier it had opened a branch at Delhi in 1923, which produced stoneware jars for pickles and acids, firebricks and all kinds of refractories as well as electrical insulators.

In the year 1929, the Factory started the manufacture of stoneware pipes for drainage and supplied them to the Drainage Department of the State. Though it faced severe competition from the imported crockery and pottery from Japan from 1933 onwards, it managed to survive successfully, and by 1941 when owing to restricted imports due to the War there was a great demand for its products, it was able to establish itself on a sound basis. By the use of improved techniques the quality of its products has been steadily improved, and they have found a growing market both in the country and outside.

The Factory has a capital of Rs. 8,31,553, and employs a staff of 531 workers of all categories. The factory is manufacturing the following grades of potteries :—

1. Tablewares—dinner sets, tea sets, coffee sets, etc.
2. Stationery goods—painting slabs, tinting saucers, inkpots, inkwells, paper-weights, pin-trays, pin-cushions, ash-trays, etc.
3. Decorative goods—flower vases, flower bowls, animal figures, jardinières, toys, etc.
4. Hospital requisites—feeding cups, inhalers, ointment pots, urinals, spittoons, etc.



5. Sanitary goods—toilet sets, lavatory sets, etc.
6. Rockingham wares—black and brown tea pots, etc.
7. Saltglazed stoneware pipes.
8. Stoneware Jars for pickle and acid.
9. Glazed tiles—plain, coloured, embossed and painted.

The main raw materials used in the industry are clay, quartz and felspar. Main variety of clay is obtained from Bela-ki-chowki area near Gwalior, but some other varieties of clay to be mixed up with the main clay are obtained from other places in the State and Maharashtra. Quartz and felspar stones have to be obtained from Rajputana for finer manufacture.

The institution has its own show rooms and sale depots at Scindia House, New Delhi and Chawri Bazar, Delhi. Besides, Arts and Crafts Emporia of the State Industries Department located in different towns of the State sell the products of the Gwalior Potteries. During the year 1951-52, the sales reached about Rs. 7.5 lakhs, being the highest amount since the establishment of the factory.

**The Gwalior Leather Factory, Tannery and Tent Factory.**—This is a composite factory with three units—a Leather Factory, a Tent Factory and a Tannery—which are wholly State-owned. The Leather Factory is situated on Mall Road, four miles north of Morar Cantonment, the Tent Factory a little further to the north, and the Tannery about a mile and a half away from the factory in the north-eastern direction. This is a State-owned industry with a capital investment of Rs. 3,81,800 and employing 109 persons consisting of skilled and unskilled workers.

The nucleus of this industry was established as long ago as 1898 originally to supply harness, saddlery, tentage, footwear, etc., for the army and the police of the former Gwalior State. After the usual vicissitudes that new industries have to face in the early years, the factories did very well during the period 1912 to 1920, helped to a large extent by the needs of the First World War. The success attained by the factory during this period enabled it to tide over the period of depression that gripped the business world after the termination of the First World War. The factory started supplying the civilian needs of footwear and other leather goods. The production of civilian footwear rose to 13 thousand pairs a year in 1928. The tanning of hides was also successful, and the tannery soles found a good market in Agra and other centres.

A tent section was added to the factory during the Second World War in about 1940. Helped by the demand from the armed forces, this section did exceedingly well, and was able to deliver goods worth Rs. 4 lakhs within a period of two months.

The factory is divided mainly in the following sections and sub-sections:—

#### A. Boot Section—

1. Cutting.
2. Completing.



3. Lashing.
4. Finishing.

#### B. Harness Section—

1. Cutting.
2. Completing.
3. Finishing.

#### C. Tent Section—

1. Cutting.
2. Stitching.

#### D. Tannery—

1. Lining.
2. Tanning.
3. Curing.

At present the factory produces bots and munda shoes for police and all varieties of footwears, suit-cases, hold-alls, leather portfolios, saddlery and harness. The factory utilises raw materials worth about Rs. three lakhs a year, while the tannery makes use of Rs. 44 thousands worth of raw material. Sole-leather, harness leather and sheep-skin required by the factory are generally supplied by the tannery and other raw materials are purchased from the markets of Agra, Kanpur, Calcutta and Madras. *Babul* trees are planted in the area of the tannery and their bark is used in tanning. Other raw materials required by the tannery are generally obtained from Agra, Muzaffarnagar, Katni and Kamptee.

By the end of the Second Five Year Plan, the annual production of boots, and civilian footwear was 18 thousand, and the other fancy leather and canvas articles was 13 thousand.

**The Government Regional Press, Gwalior.**—The Regional Press at Gwalior, so named after the States Reorganization in November 1956, evolved out of the Durbar Press established by Maharaja Madhav Rao Sindhia towards the end of the 19th century. In 1895-96 there were 17 machines set up in the press which met the requirements of the State Government, especially of routine forms and reports. The press printed the weekly Gwalior Gazette, and the stamped papers used by the Stamps Department. In 1903-04 a Stationery Department was added to the press for supplying the paper and stationery required by Government offices. In the same year a Type Foundry was also set up, and the Gwalior Gazette and Jayaji Pratap—both weeklies—and the Gwalior Commercial Journal were printed in types cast here in English and Hindi. By 1909 the press had its own building in Jayaji Chowk, Lashkar, where it is still situated. During 1912-13 the printing press at the Central Jail, Lashkar, was amalgamated with it, and the press was renamed as the Alijah Durbar Press.



By 1939-40 the value of the out-turn of work by the Press was Rs. 3,25,872 which earned a net profit of Rs. 24,360. When the Union of Madhya Bharat was formed in 1948, the press served the increased needs of the State, and was called the Government Central Press. In 1951-52 it underwent another process of expansion and reorganization. The Secretariat Press, which was doing the printing job of the Madhya Bharat Secretariat, was amalgamated with the Central Press, and additional printing and casting machines were set up. Thus by the time the State was further reorganised and formed into the present Madhya Pradesh, the Government Central Press had one rotary machine, 25 printing machines working two shifts, five lithographic printing machines, lead and rule casting machines, etc. The capital cost of the machines set up in the press is about Rs. 10.5 lakhs. With the formation of the Madhya Pradesh State under the States' Reorganization Act, the Gwalior Central Press, was named the Government Regional Press, Gwalior, to distinguish it from the Central Press at Bhopal.

Apart from the Government Regional Press, there are seven private printing presses at Gwalior which are registered under the Factories Act, 1948. Between them, they employ on an average 183 persons per day.

**J. B. Mangharam Biscuit Factory.**—In 1951 Messrs J. B. Mangharam and Sons set up a biscuit factory at Gwalior in the industrial area of the city as a proprietary concern. The Madhya Bharat Government offered them certain facilities and concessions, such as exemption from some taxes, allotment of land, etc. The installed capacity of the factory is nine tons 15 cwt. of biscuits and 19 tons 17½ cwt. of confectionery per day of eight hours shift. The factory has been able to capture a large part of the home market in a comparatively short time and also export its products to other countries. The raw material used by the factory—*maida*, sugar, vegetable ghee, essences, etc.—are available both locally and in neighbouring areas.

**Imperial Match Company Ltd., Lashkar.**—This match manufacturing factory was established in 1933 by Messrs Gwalior Traders Ltd., with an initial capital of Rs. 26,150. They engaged 57 operators and produced about 4,000 gross boxes of matches valued at Rs. 6,806 in that year. The industry has since grown and has an investment of Rs. 1,16,750 with a capacity to manufacture a thousand gross boxes of matches a day. It employs more than 150 persons on an average per day.

The raw material for the match-stick manufactured by the factory is the wood splinters from *Semal* or *Salai* trees which are extensively grown in the district. These are very light soft wood and suitable for matches. The annual production of matches by this factory during the period 1948 to 1956 was as follows:—

Year (1)	Production in gross (2)
1948	59,175
1949	42,917



(1)	(2)
1950 .. .. .	61,700
1951 .. .. .	78,854
1952 .. .. .	76,448
1953 .. .. .	68,465
1954 .. .. .	61,606
1955 .. .. .	55,816
1956 .. .. .	58,139

### Small-Scale Industries

There are a number of small-scale industries in Gwalior district most of which are located in Gwalior city itself. Notable among them is the manufacture of carpets, *daris*, *niwar* etc.

**Carpet and Dari Manufacture.**—There are two principal carpet factories at Gwalior—the East India Company Ltd., and the Amritsar Carpet Factory. The East India Carpet Company which was formerly known as Stavarides (Gwalior) Carpet Factory was established in 1920. The pile carpets made by this factory are of high quality in several pleasing designs and find a wide market both within the country and outside. It has a capital investment of about one lakh rupees and employs 200 persons per day.

The Amritsar Carpet and Rugs Manufacturing Company was started in 1947 at Gwalior (Lashkar). This factory also manufactures high-class carpets which find a good market. The wool for both these factories is mostly obtained from Uttar Pradesh. The wool obtained from sheep in Pichhore tahsil of Gwalior district is mostly grey and is of a coarse quality which is not suitable for making superior carpets, though it can be used for making rough blankets, carpets and coarse tweeds. About 2,000 mounds of wool is sent out from Pichhore annually.

Apart from the two factories mentioned above, the Central Jail, Gwalior, manufactures carpets, *daris*, mattings and *niwars*, using the convicts as workmen, having given them the necessary training. The work produced at the Central Jail is of high artistic quality, its finest work being the single piece red plush carpet measuring 98' × 50', which covers the floor of the Durbar Hall in Jai Vilas Palace at Gwalior.

**Hosiery Industry.**—Out of the several industrial units that produce hosiery goods of which there are about 40 in number, only three were registered under the Factories Act in the year 1958. They are, the Trilok Hosiery Mills, Lashkar, the Birla Hosiery Factory, Gwalior and the Krishna Hosiery Factory, Morar. Among the different kinds of hosiery articles manufactured in these units nearly 60 per cent consist of sweaters and about 20 per cent are under-wears, Socks, caps and scarfs make up the rest.

The Birla Hosiery Factory, a sister concern of the Jeewajirao Cotton Mills Cotton Mills Ltd., was started in 1938 and manufactures sweaters, scarfs, *ganjis*,



socks, jersies etc., on a large scale. Its production during the year 1955 rose to 48,700 dozens and it employed about 100 persons daily.

**Rice, Dal and Oil Mills.**—Out of the 30 rice mills, 20 dal mills and 30 oil mills in the district, only two rice mills, two dal mills and one oil mill are registered under the Factories Act. They are the Gwalior Rice and Oil Mills, Dabra and Shri Gurunanak Rice and Dal Mill, Gwalior, both being registered as rice mills; the Kanhaiyalal Ramjilal Dal Mill, Lashkar and the Narhari Oil, Rice, Dal and Flour Mills Dabra, both as dal mills; and the Ramkrishna Oil Mill, Lashkar. Besides these, there are a few flour mills in the district, but none of them is registered. Dabra being an extensive rice growing area, there are several rice mills though they have not been registered under the Factories Act. In a season about three lakh maunds of paddy is purchased by them for husking.

**Gangwal Industries.**—The Gangwal Foundry Works, established in 1947 at Lashkar, is a composite undertaking which has a foundry, a rolling mill, a tin can works, a tin printing works, and a metal works. All these concerns together provide employment to about 30 persons per day. The foundry has a capacity of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  tons per hour. In a month the foundry casts about 300 maunds of smithy goods, agricultural implements, grass cutting machines, ploughs, water and sanitary fitting accessories, etc.

**Tambat Engineering and Foundry Works.**—Early in the century Messrs Tambat Brothers started a small nib factory with a modest capital of Rs. 2,000. Subsequently they established their General Engineering Workshops in 1907 with an initial capital investment of Rs. 40 thousand. They manufacture various kinds of writing nibs, drawing board pins, belt fasteners, buckles, engineering and drawing instruments, punching machines, etc. Steel and metal castings and repairs to different types of machines and engines are also undertaken by the firm. The two allied concerns associated with the Tambat Engineering Works, namely Tara Nail Works and the Ramchandra Industries make nails, outfits for umbrellas and electrical household articles. The Tambat Engineering Works employs about 32 persons a day.

**Gwalior Umberalla Factory.**—The factory situated in Gwalior city makes umbrella sticks and handles, and assembles complete umbrellas. It has a production capacity of 40 dozen umbrellas per day, and it employs on an average 50 persons daily. The assembling is done by hand.

**Engineering Works.**—There are 45 engineering works and repairing workshops at Lashkar, which do not come under the Factories Act. They may be classified as under:—

Nature of works	Units
(1)	(2)
1. Automobile units .. .. .	10
2. Lathe works .. .. .	13
3. Electroplating .. .. .	2



(1)	(2)
4. Welding works .. .. .	3
5. Radiator repairing works. .. .. .	3
6. Vulcanising works .. .. .	6
7. Electrical repairs .. .. .	3
8. Sewing Machine repairs .. .. .	5
Total ..	45

The total estimated investment in all the units comes to about Rs. 2,56,000 and the total number of workers to 105.

Besides, there is one engineering workshop at Dabra, which was established in January 1954, and is run by Harikrishna Cooperative Society, Ltd. It is equipped with one lathe, one drilling machine, one grinding, one motor of 20 H.P. and one welding set run on diesel engine of 18 H.P. The total investment in the workshop is about Rs. 18,000.

**Saw Milling.**—There are five units in Gwalior and two in Dabra, which are engaged in saw milling. They are driven by oil engines. They generally saw *Neem*, *Mahua*, *Shisham* and *Imli* wood. The units also sell wood and make furniture against orders. The peak season for work is from October to May, the rest of the year being slack season.

**Miscellaneous Industries.**—Chalk sticks and slate pencils are being manufactured by Messrs Prakash Industries at Morar, since 1947. They also make rubber toys, some varieties of porcelain products, black slate, barium sulphide and plaster of paris. In 1959 another firm, Master Slate Factory, was registered which makes slates and slate pencils.

There are six units making different kinds of fire works in the district, of which one factory namely, the Khatiya Fireworks, Lashkar, is registered under the Factories Act. The industry is seasonal and does brisk trade during festival seasons. The raw materials used by these factories, such as sulphur, aluminium powder, iron, charcoal, potash and other chemicals are purchased locally or obtained in quantities from neighbouring towns.

There are some 18 units in Gwalior which are engaged in making washing soaps and soap chips. They are all unregistered workshops and consume about 100 Cwt. of caustic soda per month. Their annual production is about 150 maunds of soap which is sold mostly in local markets. The total number of workers employed by all the units is estimated to be about 40 persons daily.

A glue manufacturing industry was started at Lashkar in 1953, named Messrs J. C. Glue Manufacturing Industry, with an investment of Rs. 1,200. The daily output of the factory is about two maunds, but it works only for a part of the year from October to March. The product is sold locally to carpenters, printing presses and dealers. The raw material is obtained either from neighbouring places like Dholpur and Agra as well as from local market.



### Cottage Industries

According to the National Register figures, during the year 1955, there were 3,836 cottage industries units engaged in 75 different crafts in the district employing 7,361 workers which come to about two per cent of the total population of the district. Cotton handloom weaving, brush making, manufacture of stationery articles, bamboo works, pottery, oil *ghanis*, blacksmithy, tailoring and carpentry, are some of the important cottage industries of the district. Their tahsil-wise details are given below:—

Name of tahsil (1)	No. of units (2)	Persons employed (3)	Percentage of population (4)
Gwalior ..	2,808	5,674	1.7
Pichhore ..	509	830	6.0
Bhander ..	519	857	1.6
Gwalior district	3,836	7,361	2.0

**Handloom Weaving.**—Handloom weaving is one of the most widely practised industries in the district. In almost every town and village of any importance, there are group of weavers. There are about 1,200 handlooms in Gwalior district with an estimated yearly production of 3,35,730 yards valued at Rs. 16 lakhs. It includes seven units in the city of Lashkar with 59 looms in which 45 workers are employed. The looms are of two types—throw-shuttle and fly-shuttle. The earning capacity of a weaver in the district is estimated Rs. 35 to Rs. 45 per month on throw-shuttle and Rs. 50 to 60 per month on fly-shuttle.

Besides, the Madhya Bharat Khadi Sangh, Lashkar, started on 1st July 1949, is engaged in *khadi* production in the district since 1956. The Lashkar Centre of the Sangh produced *khadi* worth Rs. 6,600 in 1956-57 which rose to Rs. 20,000 during the year 1958-59. About 575 persons, including spinners and weavers, are engaged in the industry in the district. The Madhya Bharat Khadi and Gramodyog Board has also undertaken the *khadi* production work through Ambar Charkha.

There were 22 weavers' cooperative societies with 330 members. They had a share capital of Rs. 2,294 and a working capital of Rs. 18,637 according to the figures for 1956. They sold articles worth Rs. 74,000, during that year. The Industries Department started a training-cum-production centre at Bhander in 1951, and a weaving centre under the Community Development at Pichhore for the purpose of introducing improved methods of weaving and modern designs.

These weaving units use yarn of 45 to 245 counts, which is mostly obtained from Messrs Motilal Agarwal Mills, Gwalior. Hand-spun yarn is also used by these weavers. The Government Handloom Centre, Bhander, supplies yarn to the members of the co-operative societies for executing Government orders placed with the society. Dyeing of yarn is mostly got done by the *Karkhanadars* and independent dyers of Gwalior on contract basis.



Independent weavers manufacture *khol*, *daris*, *gamachas*, *koshi-lehanga* cloth, *khes*, towels, khadi, shirting, dhوتي, etc. Besides, the *Karkhanadars* produce striped cloth, *dhupchhoan*, bedsheets, dusters, etc. The weaving work is generally done for 10 months in a year. Some of these units produce coarse wool and silk fabrics also which are exported to Agra, Kanpur, Lucknow, Delhi, Benares and Bombay.

**Wood and Furniture Works.**—Out of a total of 308 establishments engaged in wood works in the district, the number of furniture making units is about 62. These are in addition to a registered factory of furniture-makers, the K. B. Industries, Gwalior, who employ about 50 workers per day. The units of furniture-makers are scattered all over the town at Lashkar, Morar and the city proper, besides two units of Pichhore, which manufacture furniture against orders. They use mainly local wood for the purpose, but obtain superior *Sagwan* wood for high-class furniture.

**Oil Pressing.**—In addition to small and big power-crushers, about 200 *kolhus* are being operated in the district for crushing several varieties of oil seeds like linseed, sesamum, rape and mustard, groundnuts and cotton seeds. There are two types of *kolhus* in use for oil seed crushing. Earlier, till 1920, the number of *kolhus* was much larger; in Gwalior city, including Lashkar and Morar alone, there were about 1,200 *kolhus*. The increasing use of machine has steadily reduced their number.

The village *ghanis* are generally fabricated locally. *Neem*, *Babul*, and *Dhak* wood obtained from the local forests is used for making the different parts of the *ghanis*. In Pichhore tahsil, two Wardha type of *ghanis* were fitted in 1955 which are becoming quite popular in the area.

Four Oil producers' Cooperative Credit Societies have been in existence in the district since 1954 though their working has not been satisfactory. The societies, during the year 1955-56, arranged for loans and advances amounting to Rs. 4,200.

**Brass and Copper Works.**—Besides the Gangwal Foundry Works, about 50 skilled workers of the district are occupied in the work of manufacturing utensils like *tapeli*, *baghona*, *thali*, *katori* etc., from brass and copper. The making of *tapeli* is a speciality of the Gwalior metal industry.

**Leather and Leather Goods.**—Besides the Gwalior Leather Factory, about 80 units with 150 workers are engaged in tanning, while about 288 units with 466 workers are engaged in the work of shoe-stitching in the district. The estimated out-put is about 1,35,000 pairs per year, which includes *kisan jooties*, light *jooties*, leather-sole *chappals*, *punjabi*, *salimshahi*, canvas shoes and western footwear. The average monthly earning of a shoe-maker in the district is estimated to be Rs. 50. The women folk generally do the embroidery work on shoes and slippers for which they are usually paid 9 annas per pair.

There are eight Cooperative Credit Societies of leather workers with 141 members, with Rs. 3,574 as share capital and Rs. 447 as reserved fund. In the



year 1956, the societies arranged for a loan of Rs. 7,800 for their members. Following four Cobblers' Cooperative Societies in the district may be mentioned:—

1. Adarsh Harijan Chamar-Ka-Karya Karanewali Sahkari Samiti Mochiauli, Lashkar.
2. Leather Shoe-makers Cooperative Society, Morar.
3. The Charmakar Sangh Ltd., Madhavaganj, Lashkar.
4. The Mochian Cooperative Society, Antri.

**Dyeing and Printing.**—There are 68 units of dyers and printers in the district which undertake the dyeing and printing of *lihaf*, *jajam*, *chunari*, *sari*, petticoat, *palang-posh*, *safa*, etc. Except the *chunari*, all the varieties are usually printed by using blocks which are made of *shisham* or *sagwan* wood. The artisans themselves prepare the black colour and purchase other colours locally. Their total consumption of cloth is estimated at about 180 bales annually during normal days.

A worker engaged in the industry normally earns Rs. 2 to Rs. 3-8-0 per day of eight hours; but who undertakes mica printing earns from Rs. 5 to Rs. 6 per day. Special brass made blocks, zinc paint and mica powder are required for this kind of print.

**Stone Carving.**—Stone carving is an ancient and reputed craft in this area, and is generally a hereditary profession. At present there are 14 units engaged in this craft in the district. They are generally engaged in carving idols and making *chakala*, *kundi*, *patta*, etc., which are generally used for household purposes.

The requisite quality of red stone is available in the village Odupura, four miles away from Gwalior on Tigra Road. White stone is obtained from Banmor @ Rs. 25 to 30 per 100 square feet.

**Bamboo Work.**—The workers engaged in bamboo work are scattered throughout the city of Gwalior, but the majority of them live in a colony in the Aryanagar locality. About 150 persons of Basod family are engaged in this profession and they produce baskets, *soopas*, hand fans, bamboo curtains (*chiks*) and *khas tattis*. They also prepare articles of furniture like chairs, sofa-sets, etc. Since the industry does not provide full time work to the craftsmen throughout the year, they are also engaged in the traditional occupation of playing the drum on ceremonial occasions. The women folk work as *dais* or midwives.

Bamboo and *khas* are the raw materials which are available in the district itself. Supplies of bamboo also come from outside districts.

The products are sold mostly locally and their prices are roughly:—

Basket—Rs. 0-2-0 to Rs. 3 each according to size.

*Soopas*—Rs. 0-6-0 to Rs. 0-8-0 each.

Hand Fans—Rs. 0-1-0 to Rs. 0-2-0 each.



**Chiks**—Rs. 0-1-6 to 0-4-0 per square foot.

**Khas Tattis**—Rs. 0-4-0 per square foot.

Chiks and *khas tattis* have a good seasonal demand and are generally prepared against orders.

**Cottage Handicrafts.**—There are a number of traditional crafts in the district of Gwalior and some families in the Gwalior city have been engaged in such crafts for generations, such as manufacturing toys from waste-paper, cloth, clay, wood and rubber.

**Clay and Papier-mache Toys.**—Clay and paper pulp toy-making is an important cottage industry of Gwalior. During the year 1955 there were 26 units of artisans undertaking production of paper pulp and clay toys in Gwalior city alone. These cheap and light products in attractive shapes and colours are much in demand both as children's toys and as drawing room decoration. They consist of realistic models of human figures as well as of animals, birds, fruits, vegetables, etc. Some of the craftsmen have recently started making miniatures of ancient temples also. These articles have attracted the attention of buyers in important cities of India and have even found market overseas.

The industry has not so far been organised, and hence the craftsmen are often exploited by middlemen who obtain bulk orders and get the products supplied to them at low prices by advancing money or other raw materials to the artisans. Of late, however, the State Government has been taking interest in the development of this industry, and have provided for giving subsidy and grants-in-aid to their recently organised cooperative society. The Industries Department has engaged an artist who suggests attractive and new designs to be introduced in the models. At the time of the Annual Fair held at Gwalior, every year, a competition is organised by the department and prizes are awarded as an incentive to the craftsmen.

The moulds for making these articles are prepared by local craftsmen out of plaster of paris, and the finishing touches to the articles, including polishing, colouring and varnishing are given by hand. The products are generally sold during festive occasions and *melas* in Gwalior and the surrounding districts.

The common raw materials for clay toys are clay, colours, gum and varnish. Clay is available in Behat, about 10 miles away from Gwalior; colours, gum and varnish are purchased from local markets. Paper pulp is the main raw material for papier-mache industry, which is purchased from local presses.

About 20 full-time and 15 part-time workers are, at present, engaged in the papier-mache industry in the district and they produce articles worth about Rs. 22,000 annually.

**Cloth Toys.**—Soft, unbreakable toys and dolls made of stuffed cloth are produced at Gwalior and are quite attractive and cheap. This used to be a



part-time craft pursued by women in the lower middle class and poorer families. The art has been encouraged and subsidised by the Industries Department, as a result of which these products have become very popular, and the Government Emporia are purchasing the entire production for sale.

The families engaged in this craft work throughout the whole year, but the sales are seasonal at the time of the Annual Gwalior Fair and other important fairs held in the surrounding districts and during festivals. The raw materials required for the toys such as rags, coloured shining papers, *gota* and bamboo sticks are available locally.

**Lacquerware Toys.**—Gwalior is famous for its lacquerware toys also. They are made of *Salai* wood which is available in Gwalior district forest at about Rs. seven per maund. Other materials required for the purpose are paints and colours which are purchased locally.

There are, at present, two units engaged in this craft. One of the units engaged in the work in Gwalior is the 'Sunny Toys' which was granted a loan of Rs. 6,000 in the year 1954-55 and an equal amount in 1955-56. They manufacture models of animals, bullock carts, motor trucks, *tongas*, etc. Their quality is highly attractive and they are in demand in important markets of India. They are also sold through State Government Emporia. In 1955, the Department of Industries started conducting a class in lacquerware at Gwalior for training workmen in this craft.

#### INDUSTRIAL POTENTIAL AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

The narrative of the industries in Gwalior district given so far would show that the industrial potential of this area is vast and varied. To these should be added the benefits that are bound to be derived from the Chambal Hydel Scheme, both in terms of power and irrigation. When these become fully available it is certain that the industrial future of Gwalior district will unfold expanding possibilities. Not only will the existing industries be able to augment their capacity and step up their output, but new industries based either on the resources of the district and on the bye-products of some existing industries could be set up.

The immediate possibilities in regard to the development of industry in the district are more for small-scale industries, though it is possible to enlarge the existing large-scale industries usefully by adding to their production capacity, as has been done in case of J. C. Mills and Gwalior Rayon and Silk Manufacturing Co., Gwalior. Messrs Saund and Co., of New Delhi, are planning to set up a Moped Scooter Factory at Gwalior to produce 2,000 Scooters a year at an investment of Rs. 25 lakhs. Among the agriculture based industries it is possible to expand the oilseed crushing industry, especially in view of the important sesamum and linseed crop in the district. The area under oil-seeds in the district in 1957-58 was 38,257 acres. It is also possible to establish a solvent extraction plant which should be able to use about 50 tons of cake per day available from the local *ghanis* and oil mills. Further, inferior grades of sesamum oil and of certain minor seeds such as *Neem* could be utilised for the manufacture of soap.



Similarly, rice bran which is at present being used almost exclusively as cattle feed could be processed after extraction of oil though it is, perhaps, doubtful if it would be an economical unit since Gwalior is not a predominantly rice-growing area. However, paddy straw and linseed straw could be used as raw material in a straw board factory, say, at Dabra where we can get some 28 thousand tons of bagasse as bye-product in the sugar industry.

The resources of the forests in the district could be better exploited, if power is made available. According to the Techno-Economic Survey conducted by the Directorate of Industries in 1958, a plant for manufacturing stationery and other wooden products made out of the soft wood available in the forests could be set up in Gwalior district. It has also been suggested that a paper plant could be set up, if adequate water supply together with supply of power could be ensured.

Other small scale industries that can be set up with advantage are those for the manufacture of sewing machines, bicycles, freewheels, glass factory, small hand tools, etc. To some extent these have been developed after the establishment of an Industrial Estate at Gwalior at a cost of about Rs. 12 lakhs. This Estate has built 68 sheds out of which 47 have been allotted. Each has been provided with open and built-up space, easy means of transportation, power, water and other facilities. Out of the 47 units that have been allotted accommodation in the Estate 20 have started production. The industries that are till now in position in the Estate are the following:—

Industry (1)	No. of units (2)
Cycle manufacture	4
Sewing machine	1
Wire nails	2
Iron safe	1
Slate factory	1
Leaf spring factory	1
Water-proof paper making	1
Band-saw blades	1
Electric fans	1
Chain manufacture	1
Agricultural Implements	2
Ghamela manufacturing	1
Hosiery factory	3

The industrial development of the area is to some extent linked with the general economic condition of the people. The one acts upon the other and both are mutually inter-dependent.



### LABOUR AND EMPLOYERS' ORGANIZATIONS

In the two industrial centres in the district—Gwalior and Dabra—the labour is well organized in trade unions. The unions are formed mainly according to the industry in which the labour is employed. Thus, the textile industry at Gwalior has the following unions:—

- The Mazdoor Congress, Gwalior.
- The Hosiery Mazdoor Sangh, Gwalior.
- The Mazdoor Sabha, Gwalior.

The first two are affiliated to the Indian National Trade Union Congress while the third is affiliated to the All India Trade Union Congress. The labour unions in the district, as elsewhere in the country, fall broadly into two divisions, according to their affiliation to one or the other of those two all-India Organizations of Labour. So, in the Engineering Industry at Gwalior we have two labour unions:—

- Engineering Kamgar Sangh (INTUC).
- Gwalior Engineering Workers' Union (AITUC).

Since Gwalior city has a number of industries, such as pottery, carpet, leather, match factory, etc., labour unions of workers in these factories have been formed, such as:—

- Potteries Mazdoor Sangh.
- Kalcen Karkhana Mazdoor Sangh.
- Match Factory Mazdoor Sangh.
- J. B. Mangharam Biscuit Factory Labour Union.
- Leather Factory Mazdoor Sangh.

All these unions are affiliated to the Indian National Trade Union Congress. All these industries, however, also have rival labour unions which owe allegiance to the All-India Trade Union Congress. Thus the parallel wings of labour organization, each looking upon the other as a kind of rival, run through the entire industrial structure.

Apart from these two major organizations, there is also a Hind Mazdoor Sabha in Gwalior which has its units in the labour force attached to the Public Works Department, Electricity Board, Printing Press, Gangmen and the M. B. Roadways. Among these unions are the following:—

- M. B. Electric Supply Workers Union.
- M. B. Roadways Workers Union.
- P. W. D. Workers Union.
- P. W. D. Irrigation and Time Keepers Union.
- Government Central Press Workers Union.

At Dabra, the second industrial centre in the district there is a Shakkar Mill Mazdoor Sangh which is the representative union for the sugar industry



and is affiliated to the INTUC. In general opposition to this is another union called the Sugar Workers' Union which has its affiliation with the AITUC. Trade unions are springing up in several other employments, such as the municipality, rickshaw drivers, water works, etc.

There are no employers' organizations in the district based on separate industries. There is, however, a Chamber of Commerce at Gwalior which came into existence as long ago as in 1906, but was actually registered in 1912. It became a member of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry in 1940, and has been serving as the forum for the management of industries and trades in the former Gwalior State, and later Madhya Bharat State.

### WELFARE OF INDUSTRIAL LABOUR

In the more important industries which are duly organised and registered under the Factories Act, the welfare of labour is regulated under a number of legislative measures. Thus, in industries like textiles, engineering, pottery, transport, the workers are protected in respect of wages, insurance, provident fund and other benefits. The former Gwalior State enacted the Gwalior Factories Act in 1931. Later, in 1942, provisions for setting up a Board of Conciliation and a Court of Industrial Disputes were made in the Act. The State also adopted the following measures of legislation for the improvement of the economic and social conditions of workers:—

1. The Maternity Benefits Act (1942).
2. The Pledging of Children's Labour Act (1942).
3. The Employment of Children Act (1942).
4. The Protection of Children Act (1942).
5. The Employers' Liability Act (1942).
6. The Payment of Wages Act (1943).
7. The Workmen's Compensation Act (1942).

The Industrial Disputes Act and the Trade Unions Act were enforced in April 1946 in the important industries in the Gwalior State. The Gwalior Factories Act was amended in 1945-46 reducing the working hours from ten to nine hours a day in all factories. When the Madhya Bharat State was formed in 1948 a common labour policy for the whole State was announced and the Minimum Wages Act, the Provident Fund Act and the Indian Boilers Act were applied to the whole State in 1951-52.

**The Employees' State Insurance Scheme.**—This Scheme was applied to Gwalior city in January 1955 under which all factory employees earning less than Rs. 400 a month were insured. In 1958-59 the scheme was extended to the families of the insured workers. Facilities of medical care on a restricted scale to the members of the family of insured workers at Gwalior are also being given under the scheme with effect from 15th February 1959. Some 35 factories at Gwalior centre, employing on an average 16,500 workers daily, are insured under Employees' State Insurance Scheme. The statement giving the number



of insured workers, and the number of persons in the families of insured workers receiving benefits is as under: —

Year			New	Old	Total
(1)			(2)	(3)	(4)
<b>Insured Persons</b>					
1955	..	..	34,259	1,69,628	2,03,887
1956	..	..	45,116	2,25,505	2,70,621
1957	..	..	53,762	2,81,038	3,34,800
1958	..	..	45,143	2,92,923	3,38,066
1959	..	..	49,456	3,25,417	3,74,873
1960	..	..	54,423	3,92,644	4,47,067
<b>Families of Insured Persons</b>					
1959	..	..	74,218	47,402	1,21,620
1960	..	..	95,051	3,31,842	4,26,893

The benefits provided to the insured persons, under the scheme are medical treatment and supply of all types of medicines, indoor treatment, hospitalisation, specialist services, pathological tests, etc.

Following cash benefits are also given under the scheme :—

- (1) Sickness benefits,
- (2) Extended sickness benefits,
- (3) Maternity benefits to the female workers,
- (4) Temporary disablement benefits to the workers getting employment injuries,
- (5) Dependent benefits,
- (6) Supply of denture to the insured persons whose teeth are broken due to employment injury, and
- (7) Artificial limbs at the cost of the Scheme.



Details of various benefits paid in cash at the Gwalior centre during the year 1959 and 1960 are as under :—

Particular Benefits  (1)	Amount	
	1959	1960
	(2) Rs.	(3) Rs.
1. Temporary disablement benefits .. .. .	36,026.77	40,166.16
2. Sickness benefits .. .. .	3,05,839.25	3,90,013.93
3. Extended sickness benefits .. .. .	4,820.25	7,895.97
4. Maternity benefits .. .. .	21,934.92	17,178.24
5. Permanent disablement benefits .. .. .	9,572.42	15,241.12
6. Dependent benefits .. .. .	3,689.35	3,682.26

**Provident Fund Scheme.**—Provident Fund benefits for industrial labour are being given under the Employees' Provident Fund Scheme, 1952, framed under section 5 of the Employees' Provident Fund Act, 1952. All factories falling under the Scheduled Industries, employing 50 or more employees, and having completed first three years of their set-up, or factories employing 20 or more employees and having completed first five years of their set-up, come under the purview of the Scheme. The Employer's contribution to the Provident Fund under the Scheme is 6½ per cent of the basic wages, dearness allowance and other concessions given to a worker. The contribution payable by a worker is equal to that of the employer, with a permission to contribute a higher rate, not exceeding 8½ per cent of the basic wages, dearness allowances, etc. The worker who has completed one year's continuous service is entitled to the privilege of Contributory Provident Fund. There are 16 factories in Gwalior district falling under the Scheduled Industries, *viz.*, Textiles including Carpet Weaving and Silk Textiles, Sugar, Confectionary and Biscuit Making, Potteries, Road Transport, General Engineering, Rice and Oil Mills. About 14,483 workers employed in these factories are getting Provident Fund benefits under the Scheme. The years and dates on which the Provident Fund Scheme was made applicable to different industries under the Employees' Provident Fund Act, are given below:—

Name of the Industries (1)	Date of the application of Scheme (2)
1. General Engineering	1st November 1952.
2. Textiles	1st November 1952.
3. Edible Oils and Fats	31st July 1956.



(1)	(2)
4. Sugar	31st July 1956
5. Biscuit Making	30th April 1958.
6. Motor Transport	30th April 1959.
7. Rice Milling	31st December 1960.
8. Refractories (Potteries)	31st July 1956.

Under the Workmen's Compensation Act the industrial labour is entitled to payment for losses suffered as a result of accident. Compensation is paid to the family in cases of fatal accidents, and to the worker in cases of disablement, either permanent or temporary. During the period from 1957 to 1961 the Labour Court at Gwalior ordered payment of compensation for fatal accidents amounting to Rs. 25,797 and for disablement amounting to Rs. 1,564.

**Industrial Housing Scheme.**—In order to provide housing facilities to industrial workers 950 living quarters in five industrial colonies have been constructed in Gwalior under the subsidised Industrial Housing Scheme. Certain large industrial concerns, such as the Jeewajirao Cotton Mills, have their own colonies for workers. The J. C. Mills Colony has over 2,000 quarters with water, light and sanitary arrangements. There is also a canteen which supplies food at concessional rates to the workers.

There are Labour Welfare Centres in almost all the large labour colonies where recreational facilities, including facilities for outdoor games, exist. A full-fledged hospital and a maternity home is attached to the J. C. Mill, Gwalior. A music school, primary school and a high school for the children of the workers have been established in the labour colony.

The Gwalior Sugar Factory, Dabra, runs a canteen on a 'no profit' basis, and provides a club with indoor games and newspapers, a small hospital and a primary school for the children of the workers. There is also a cooperative store and a cooperative dairy for the benefit of the workers of the factory.



## CHAPTER VI

### BANKING, TRADE AND COMMERCE

Though banking in the sense in which it is understood now is an institution of comparatively recent origin in the district, some of the transactions which fall under the term were in practice from quite early times. Certain Pratihara inscriptions suggest the existence of guilds consisting of persons occupied in the same trade at Gwalior. For instance, the Gwalior inscription<sup>1</sup> refers to the Guild of Oil-millers (*tailikasreni*) and of gardeners (*malikasreni*) who in their corporate capacity made certain gifts to temples. It is further known that the guilds in ancient days used to receive deposits of public money and paid interest on them. It would also appear that they lent money to other members. We could thus imagine the guilds as serving the functions of banks in a limited way. "The guilds, which thus operated as a net-work of banks throughout the length and breadth of the country, must have possessed a coherent organization, sufficient to induce the public to trust large sums of money with them. They must have been of long standing, and their operations, characterised by honesty and fair-dealing; for, otherwise, men would scarcely have made perpetual endowments with them."<sup>2</sup>

During the Mughul period Gwalior had become a flourishing commercial and trading centre. *Ain-i-Akbari* refers to the existence of a mint at Gwalior which struck copper coins.<sup>3</sup> It would seem that payment by bills of exchange or *Hundees* was in practice in this part of the country as elsewhere. When the capital of Gwalior State shifted from Ujjain to Gwalior (Lashkar) in 1810, it naturally led to greater trade and commercial activity in and around Gwalior. This brought into existence a number of Mahajans who lent money on adequate security. Several wealthy Jagirdars and businessmen utilised their surplus money by lending it on interest to traders, agriculturists, etc. There were also a few *Sahukars* who did elementary banking business, like accepting deposits of money and valuables and handling *hundees*.

#### **Rural Indebtedness**

The Economic and Industrial Survey Commission appointed by the former Gwalior State Government says in its report published in 1932:—

"Drought of scanty and capricious rainfall, loans on heavy rate of interest, ruinous litigation and extravagant ceremonial rites and traditional customs, communal squabbles, conservatism, illiteracy and high land assessment are the chief causes of the poverty of the agriculturists. A farmer or tenant is steeped in debt. He can shake off his burden only when his crops are bumper and fetch good prices. These factors are dependent upon nature and trade. He fights against seasons, rainfall, locusts and a host of enemies to plentiful harvests and combats against depression in trade."<sup>4</sup>

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1. Epigraphia Indica, Vol. 1, pp. 160-61.

2. R. C. Mazumdar, The Corporate life in Ancient India, p. 37.

3. Ain-i-Akbari, Tr. by H. Blochmann, Vol. I, pp. 31-32.

4. Report of the Economic and Industrial Survey Commission, (1932), p. 87.



The list is formidable, and even after making allowances for purely rhetorical effects, the economic situation of the rural population—especially of those who depend on land for their livelihood—was precarious. Some idea of the heavy burden of debt that lay on the villager could be obtained from the heavy rate of interest that he had to pay. The Economic and Industrial Survey Commission's report says that a *Sahukar* in Bhandar tahsil charged an interest of two per cent per month on the loans advanced by him in 1932. This was apparently the more moderate type of money-lender, because instances of rates of interest ranging from  $37\frac{1}{2}$  per cent to 75 per cent per annum were by no means uncommon, and a few remorseless Shylocks appeared to have charged as much as 150 per cent per annum. Various factors such as the credit-worthiness of the borrower, the period for which the loan was required, the value of the security etc., decided to what level the rate of interest could be raised.

Loans, not in money but in kind, are also common in the district, especially in the case of loans of seed. Such transactions are governed by what is known as the *Sawai* system, that is, the quantity that is lent is to be returned at the time of the next harvest together with one quarter more. Usually another condition is further added to such transactions, that the peasant should sell his entire produce to the money-lender at a price determined prior to his receiving the loan. This price is generally fixed much below the prevailing harvest price.

It was also a custom among some money-lenders in the district to require the borrower to render free labour in lieu of the interest. Particularly the agricultural labourers and domestic servants would be required to work for the money-lender during a certain period without any wages.

The Settlement Report for 1940 covering the Gird tahsil reveals an interesting picture of the economic status of the different castes that constituted the population at that time. Though this has only a purely historical interest, it shows how money-lending was confined to certain classes of people.

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Caste	Amount receivable in Rs.	Amount payable in Rs.
(1)	(2)	(3)
Brahman	78,695	29,775
Rajput	3,800	14,830
Jat	8,025	13,746
Kirar	12,500	13,265
Kamaria	2,060	4,045
Goojar	38,495	28,183
Abir	1,000	2,420
Vaishya	1,73,200	200

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(1)	(2)	(3)
Kayastha .. ..	4,200	4,000
Gadaria .. ..	700	500
Chamar .. ..	1,000	500
Barhi .. ..	..	4,000
Raot .. ..	..	600
Miscellaneous .. ..	6,650	16,366
Total ..	3,30,325	1,32,400

Those described as Vaishyas had the largest surplus, followed by Brahmans, Rajputs, Gujars and others, and it was due to these communities that there was a net surplus of Rs. 1,97,925. But most of the classes which run into debt, as shown by the table, were either peasants or landless labourers and a few of them were village artisans. Though the period of the war brought in some prosperity, the net result in respect of the large masses of peasantry was not one of better living. No doubt the prices of foodgrains rose, and the peasant got a better price for his produce. But the general price-level also rose, and the peasant had to pay a higher price for all his purchases. Thus not only was the cultivator denied the benefit of the higher prices, but the higher cost of living worsened his lot and made him more dependent on the money-lender. The number of professional money-lenders in Gwalior tahsil in the year 1958 was 47, according to registers maintained by money-lenders as required by Money-lenders Act. There is, however, no reliable information about how much money was owed to them.

No economic investigation or survey of rural indebtedness in the district has been conducted so far. But the All India Rural Credit Survey sponsored by the Reserve Bank of India in 1951 throws some light on the state of rural indebtedness. The Committee carried out an empirical survey in the adjoining district of Shivpuri which lies to the south of Gwalior district and has close economic affinities with it. Hence the findings of the Committee in respect of Shivpuri district could, more or less, be considered true of the condition of Gwalior. The Committee came to the conclusion that the proportion of indebted families in Shivpuri district, in the case of cultivating, non-cultivating and all families was 65.3, 36.6 and 60.6 per cent respectively, and the average debt per indebted family in each of the above mentioned categories was Rs. 387, Rs. 261 and Rs. 375, respectively. They calculated the total debt per cultivating family as Rs. 253, out of which Rs. 209 was borrowed from professional money-lenders, and of the rest, Rs. 26 came from Government sources, Rs. 11 from landlords,



while Rs. three was borrowed from cooperative and commercial banks and the remaining Rs. three from relatives. The total debt in the case of non-cultivating family was Rs. 96. Out of this Rs. 88 was borrowed from the professional money-lenders, Rs. four from relatives and Rs. three from landlords. This analysis brings out clearly the immense importance of the money-lender as a credit agency in the field of rural indebtedness.

The *Arhatiya*, or commission agent, is another important factor in the financing of agriculturists. He advances loans to the cultivator against the anticipated crops, which should be sold to him at a predetermined price. Besides, it is customary for him to charge the cultivator brokerage, weighing charges, commission, etc. The cultivator has little choice in the matter, because of his vulnerable position and he perforce accepts the loan with all the disabilities attached to it. The rate of interest usually depended upon the nature of the transaction and the capacity of the borrower to bear it, but was normally never less than 12 per cent, and some times as high as 75 per cent.

### Urban Indebtedness

It is not possible to estimate the exact extent of urban indebtedness in the district since no survey has been conducted in this respect. It is, however, known that there were 24 money-lenders in Gird tahsil in 1958 according to the registers maintained under the Money-lenders Act. The number of money-lenders in the urban areas of the district might be many more, since several of them may be practising the trade without registering themselves.

The itinerant *Rohillas* or Afghan *Kistwalas* who lent money to the indigent worker in shops, factories and offices in urban areas were as ubiquitous in this district as in other parts of the country. They usually get their victims among the town-dwellers of small means, and once they have got them in their clutches, it is hardly ever that they get away. The loans they advance carry an interest of one rupee per month for every ten rupees, and before they give the loan a certain sum is deducted from it as miscellaneous charges. They are not fastidious about proper security, nor do they rely on the process of law for recovering the loan. They depend rather on their physical presence, threat and intimidation, and waylay their customers on pay day as they emerge from their places of work and collect their dues.

Lately, resulting from the enforcement of strict legislation the menace of the *Rohilla* money-lender has largely disappeared. The *Mahajans* and *Sahukars* are, however, still able to ply their questionable trade in several places in the district. The petty trader, the needy worker or labourer once caught in their toils can hardly shake himself free. The expanding facilities of modern banking and the growth of cooperative credit have to a large extent curbed the ravages of rapacious money-lenders. Even so, the ease with which they are willing to extend loans tempt the uninitiated who are often put off by the complicated procedure and red-tape associated with Government credit



This is one of the reasons why inspite of the growth of Joint Stock Banks a large amount of business is still carried on by the indigenous bankers in Gwalior district. This is particularly so in the rural areas where agriculture and the internal trade still depend to a large extent on the indigenous bankers, several of whom serve also as middlemen. No doubt under the Agricultural Bank Act, 1909 and the Cooperative Societies Act, 1918 credit facilities were available for cultivators. "The Agricultural Banks used to advance money on easy terms to Zamindars and *Kashtkars* i.e., tenants both for raising annual crops and for land improvement."<sup>1</sup> Inspite of this the villager largely depended on the indigenous bankers and money-lenders for his needs. In the past the money-lenders thrived on their trade by ruthless methods of extortion. Every advantage was taken of the debtor's illiteracy and helplessness. But to some extent this evil was counteracted by the legislation enacted to safeguard the interest of the debtors and to regulate the activities of the money-lenders. The Money-Lenders' Act, which received assent in 1950, provided for the registration and licensing of money-lenders, furnishing of periodical statements, maintenance of accounts on prescribed forms and exemption from attachment of certain items of debtors' property. The Debtor's Relief Act, which received assent in 1951 further provided measures to prevent the exploitation of debtors by the money-lenders. Though the law has thus created certain safeguards, it is no doubt true that evil practices and exploitation persist and largely escape the long arm of law.

### Joint Stock Banks

Modern banking institutions came into existence in the early part of this century, and began with the establishment of a branch of the Bank of Bengal in Lashkar in 1907. This bank was later on amalgamated with the other presidency banks, viz., the Bank of Bombay and the Bank of Madras in 1920, when Imperial Bank of India Act was passed which led to the formation of the Imperial Bank of India on 27th January 1921. The second bank which opened a branch in Lashkar in or about 1907 was the now defunct Amritsar Bank. A third bank to establish itself at Gwalior was the Alliance Bank of Simla which, however, went into liquidation early in 1923 and its affairs were taken over by the Imperial Bank of India. A branch of the Bharat Bank Ltd., which had its head office at Delhi was opened at Gwalior in the year 1944 but it ceased functioning in the year 1952 and was later amalgamated with the Punjab National Bank Ltd.

All these banks were limited joint stock banks incorporated outside the district. The National and Foreign Banking Corporation, Lashkar, and the Gwalior Bank Ltd., were limited joint stock banks incorporated in Gwalior under the Indian Companies Act. Both these Banks were wound up subsequently. In order to encourage the development of trade and industry in the Gwalior State, a proprietary bank named Krishnaram Baldeo Bank, was established in the year 1916 under the patronage of Maharaja Madhav Rao Sindhia. It was incorporated in Gwalior with an initial capital of Rs. five lakhs as a

1. Report on Cooperative Societies and Banks in Gwalior (1937), p. 5.



proprietary concern. Thus, the banks which are at present operating at Gwalior are the following :—

- (1) State Bank of India.
- (2) Krishnaram Baldeo Bank Private Ltd.
- (3) Punjab National Bank Ltd.
- (4) Central Bank of India Ltd.
- (5) United Commercial Bank Ltd.

**State Bank of India.**—The State Bank of India, successor to Imperial Bank of India, came into being under the State Bank of India Act, 1955 on 1st July 1955 when the entire undertaking of the Imperial Bank of India was transferred to it. The Gwalior branch falls under the jurisdiction of the Bombay Local Head Office. In addition to transacting all kinds of commercial and foreign banking business, the Bank is the local agent of the Reserve Bank of India and in that capacity handles all the cash receipt and payment pertaining to Government transactions. It also maintains a currency chest and small coins depot. The pilot scheme for rendering financial assistance to small scale industries is in force at this centre.

**Krishnaram Baldeo Bank Ltd.**—Krishnaram Baldeo Bank Ltd., is the only Joint Stock Commercial Bank, incorporated in Gwalior under the Companies Act of 1956. The Bank was registered on 4th January 1958 to take over as a going concern the business of the Krishnaram Baldeo Bank, a proprietary concern of His Highness the Maharaja Sindhia of Gwalior. As mentioned earlier, the proprietary bank was established in 1916 with an initial capital of Rs. five lakhs. The Banking Company has an authorised capital of Rs. one crore, issued and subscribed capital of Rs. 50 lakhs, and paid-up capital of Rs. 25 lakhs. As a Joint Stock Bank, the Company commenced business from 17th April 1958, the date on which it was granted a license by the Reserve Bank of India to carry on banking business in India. It is now also included in the Second Schedule to the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934. The Bank is still operating as a single unit but is doing all types of banking business as a regular joint stock commercial bank. The present deposits of the Bank amount to about Rs. 1½ crores.

**Punjab National Bank, Ltd.**—The Punjab National Bank Ltd., which has its Head Office in New Delhi, opened its first branch in Gwalior district at Naya Bazar, Lashkar, on 13th April 1948, followed by two other branches opened at Sarafa Bazar Lashkar and Morar on 29th August 1948 and 11th May 1948, respectively.

**Central Bank of India.**—The Central Bank of India Ltd., opened a branch in Gwalior on 18th November 1942. The Head Office of the Bank is in Bombay.

**United Commercial Bank, Ltd.**—The United Commercial Bank Ltd., is yet another important Joint Stock Bank in the district, which has its headquarters at Calcutta. It has two branches in Gwalior, situated in Naya Bazar and Sarafa and one sub-branch at Dabra. The first branch, that is, Naya Bazar branch



**Agricultural Banks.**—Early in this century the former Government of Gwalior State took steps to make available to the agriculturists advances and loans on reasonable terms so that they may be saved from the necessity to go to rapacious money-lenders. The Government framed detailed rules, terms and conditions on which such loans could be granted and later consolidated them in an enactment known as the Agricultural Bank Act, 1909. Under this Act Agricultural Banks were established in tahsil headquarters to assist cultivators by advancing loans for the purchase of essential machinery, tools and implements, seeds, fertilizers and manures and to meet the expenses incurred for construction of irrigation works. They arranged both long term and short term credit facilities to raise crop and for reclamation of land. The loans were given on easy terms on individual or on collective responsibility. The ordinary rate of interest was  $6\frac{1}{4}$  per cent per annum and on advances for machinery it was  $3\frac{1}{8}$  per cent per annum.<sup>1</sup> The Administration Report of Gwalior State of 1905-06 published the first statement of accounts of these Banks in the district. The total capital of the Agricultural Banks was Rs. one lakh. The banks continued to do good business till 1925 when they were merged in the Cooperative Banks. The establishment of these banks helped considerably to relieve the cultivators, but did not eliminate the village money-lender. It has been pointed out earlier that the procedural rigidity of the bank transactions and the fact that the bank could not advance money for purposes other than purely productive, say, for marriages festival expenses, etc., enabled the indigenous money-lender to flourish.

### Cooperative Societies and Banks

The Cooperative Societies Act 1918 (Gwalior State) was enacted to promote thrift, self-help and mutual assistance "among persons of common economic needs, whose means of income were limited such as agriculturists, artisans, small traders, etc."<sup>2</sup> Under this Act it was possible to form a cooperative society if ten villagers joined together and subscribed a certain number of shares of the value of Rs. 10 each or Rs. 20 each according to the kind of society they wished to form. The members then drew up a *haisiyat* register of agriculturists and non-agriculturists, and entered each member's credit worthiness, that is, the maximum safe limit upto which a loan could be advanced. The loans were normally advanced for productive purposes and the interest charged was at the rate of 15 per cent per year.

These societies can be classified into two categories, *viz.*, (a) Agricultural Credit Societies, and (b) Non-agricultural Credit Societies.

### Agricultural Credit Societies

Agricultural societies form the bulk of the cooperative credit organisation in the district, and are directly related to the bank in the field of rural finance. There are two types of agricultural societies,

1. Primary Credit Societies.
2. Large Sized Credit Societies.

1. Report on Cooperative Societies and Banks in Gwalior, (1937), p. 5.

2. Preamble to the Cooperative Societies Act, 1918.



**Primary Credit Societies.**—These have mostly a single village as the area of operation, but occasionally hamlets and small villages in the neighbourhood are also included. Their main function is to provide financial accommodation for short term and medium term period, for agricultural purposes, i.e., for seeds fertilizers, live-stock, etc. The societies take loan from the bank at the rate of nine per cent per annum and are wholly dependent on the bank for their resources. The number of such societies in the district was 410 on 30th June 1958.

**Large Sized Credit Societies.**—These societies were formed in the beginning of the Second Five Year Plan. The main aim in organising such societies was to make them self-supporting. They help the agriculturists in all his operations, that is they arrange for the acquisition of seeds, fertilizers, implements and induce agriculturists to market the commodities through marketing societies. These societies, besides taking loans from the Central Bank, accept deposits not only from members but from others also. Starting with only two such societies in the district their number had increased to 11 during the year 1957-58 in different blocks of the district. Four hundred and seventyseven villages with a population of 69,000 agriculturists were organised under these societies.

Detailed figures regarding cooperative societies are given below:—

**Agricultural Credit Societies as on 30th June 1958**

Societies	No. of Societies	No. of members	Working capital	Loans advanced to members
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
			Rs.	Rs.
Primary Credit Societies .. .. .	410	9,307	21,92,651	18,88,830
Large Sized Cooperative Societies .. .. .	11	2,054	6,23,525	2,83,258

**Ware Housing Corporation**

With the formation of the Madhya Pradesh Ware Housing Corporation in February 1958, under the Agricultural Produce (Development and Warehousing) Corporation Act 1956, an additional facility was placed within the reach of cultivator not only for the storage of his produce but for raising loans and advances on easy terms. Under this scheme a warehouse was established at Gwalior in 1959 where agriculturists could store their surplus produce, and at the same time obtain financial assistance from State Banks and other scheduled banks. The procedure is simple. The agriculturist, who deposit their surplus produce at the warehouse, have to pay a small fee to the warehouse which also includes the insurance charges against fire and other accidents in token of this deposit the agriculturist gets a receipt which is called the Warehouse Receipt. This receipt could then be produced before the branch of the State Bank or a scheduled bank in order to get a loan for which he has to fill in an application prescribed by State Bank. The agriculturist gets the loan to the tune of 60 per cent to 75 per cent of the total cost



of goods at a comparatively low rate of interest ranging from five and a half per cent to seven per cent. In 1960 another warehouse was established at Dabra. The stock position, as on 31st March, 1961, of Gwalior warehouse was 3250 maunds.

### **Non-Agricultural Credit Societies**

There were 29 non-agricultural credit societies in the district in 1958. These were mainly in urban areas. They are not connected with financing any of the agricultural operations. They advance loans to members for various personal requirements, and are not an important factor in the field of cooperation in the district.

### **Cooperative Banks**

Following the establishment of cooperative societies at the district and tahsil headquarters, the formation of cooperative banks at these places and the taking over of the functions of the Agricultural Banks by them was a natural corollary. The main difference between the two was that, whereas the cooperative banks advanced loans only to the cooperative societies and through them to their members, the agricultural banks gave loans to the individual farmer direct. In order not to deprive the farmer of this benefit, the former agricultural banks were allowed to continue even after the Gwalior District Cooperative Bank was established in 1918. The cooperative societies gradually increased in number so that they covered nearly 33 per cent of the total number of villages in the district. It was decided in 1925 to bring in a special statute for registering banks that could deal both with cooperative societies and with individual farmers. Thus an Act known as the Banks Act was passed, and it came into effect on the 1st October 1925, by which the Agricultural Banks Act of 1909 was repealed and the scope of the cooperative banks at district and tahsil level was enlarged so as to include the financing of individual cultivators and zamindars. The assets and liabilities of the Agricultural Banks were transferred to the Cooperative Banks at the district and tahsil headquarters. Subsequently, following the recommendations contained in the Report on Cooperative Societies and Banks (1937), the Bank Act was repealed, and all the district and tahsil banks were brought under the Cooperative Societies Act which was suitably amended. This position continued until 1955 when, after the formation of the Madhya Bharat State, a new legislation, the Madhya Bharat Cooperative Societies Act of 1955, was enacted.

To guide and coordinate the work of central cooperative banks and establish an integrated system of cooperative credit an apex bank named Madhya Bharat State Cooperative Bank Ltd., was established at Gwalior by the amalgamation of the three district cooperative banks of Gird (Gwalior), Ujjain and Indore with an authorised capital of Rs. 25 lakhs divided into 25,000 shares of Rs. 100 each.

This Bank, with headquarters at Gwalior, functioned for a short period of slightly over four years from 19th February 1954 to 14th March 1958. The



Bank was an apex cooperative financing agency for the Madhya Bharat State, and all the 24 Central Cooperative Banks were affiliated to it. The chief functions of the Bank were :—

- (i) to accept current savings, call and time deposits from individuals and cooperative institutions;
- (ii) to serve as a balancing centre for all cooperative banks and societies in the former Madhya Bharat State, and
- (iii) to advance loans and cash credits to cooperative central banks.

The Bank was rendering other types of banking service also, e.g., collection of bills, remittance of funds, purchase of Government securities for the constituents, etc.

The position of the Bank prior to the date of its ceasing to function, i.e., on 14th March 1958 was as stated below :—

Liabilities		Amount Rs.	Assets		Amount Rs.
1. Paid up share capital ..		20,30,000	1. Cash in hand and at banks		32,55,000
2. Reserve and other funds ..		42,000	2. Investments in Govt. Securities and time deposits.		25,25,000
3. Total deposits with the bank		51,65,000	3. Loans and advances to central banks.		83,96,000
4. Borrowings from the State Bank of India.		66,67,000	4. Advance against fixed deposits.		5,000
5. Overdrafts from the State Bank of India.		1,79,000	5. Sundries .. ..		1,70,000
6. Sundries .. ..		2,68,000			
Total		1,43,51,000	Total		1,43,51,000

On the formation of the new State of Madhya Pradesh on the 1st November 1956, the bank functioned as Apex Cooperative Bank for the Madhya Bharat region of the State. Later the apex banks of the Madhya Bharat region and of the Mahakoshal region were amalgamated into a single society, named the Madhya Pradesh Cooperative Bank Ltd., with its head-office at Jabalpur. The newly formed bank commenced functioning on 15th March 1958 and the former Madhya Bharat State Cooperative Bank Ltd., at Gwalior became a branch office of the new Apex Bank since 15th March 1958. On 30th June 1958 the number of members of the bank was 372 individuals and 480 societies and the working capital amounted to Rs. 29,21,755.46. With this higher working capital the bank has been raised to class 'A' from its previous category of class 'B' bank.



Loans are given to the affiliated societies within the limit fixed under the bye laws of the bank and the rate of interest at present is seven and a half per cent per annum. The primary societies charge interest at the rate of nine per cent per annum from their members. For the years ending June 1957 and 1959 it advanced loan to following numbers of individuals and societies:—

Year			Individuals	Societies
1956-57	..	..	1,54,620	9,14,220
1957-58	..	..	4,200	14,82,585

The Gwalior branch of the Bank is continuing to accept deposit from individuals and cooperative societies, and to advance loans to the Central Co-operative banks of Madhya Bharat region. The total deposits with the Gwalior branch of the bank aggregated to over Rs. 52,49,000, and the total loans and advances outstanding to the Bank at its Gwalior branch from the Central Co-operative banks amounted to over Rs. 1,31,17,000 on 30th September 1958.

Loans to individuals are advanced only against fixed deposits placed with the Bank to the extent of 80 per cent of the amount of deposited sum. Only a few loans of such type are applied for and, therefore, outstanding under the head of loan are usually found to be small, generally not exceeding Rs. 25,000 in all. Lending to the Central Cooperative banks by the Bank are of frequent nature and substantial amounts of loans of various types are advanced to these banks. Cash accommodation in the form of loans, cash credits and overdrafts is extended to Central Cooperative banks.

Interest on loan account is charged on day to day balance. Interest on clean loans and loans against approved Government securities is charged at a rate corresponding to the Bank rate.

#### GENERAL AND LIFE INSURANCE

Prior to the establishment of the Life Insurance Corporation of India, the life insurance business in the district was in the hands of a few Joint Stock Insurance Companies of an all-India nature, which had branches in the district. All these have now been merged in the Corporation which has taken over all the life insurance business of the different companies. A branch of Life Insurance Corporation was opened at Lashkar (Gwalior) on the 1st September 1956. The jurisdiction of this branch extends to Morena and Datia districts also, while a sub-branch office at Guna is expected to cover Guna and Shivpuri districts. The Gwalior office of the L. I. C. and the sub-branch office at Guna are controlled by the Divisional Office of the Corporation at Indore. It is thus clear that the figures of insurance business of the Gwalior office would not be for the district of Gwalior alone, but would be inclusive of the business in other districts as well. Thus in 1959 the Corporation's branch at Gwalior accepted proposals of the value



of Rs. 1,39,54,750 and covered risk of Rs. 1,03,48,250 during the year, upto 14th December.

The former Gwalior State introduced a compulsory insurance scheme for the Government servants in the State in 1913. Later, when the Madhya Bharat State was formed, this scheme was merged in the Madhya Bharat Government Life Assurance Scheme which came into force in 1949. Under the rules of this scheme insurance was compulsory for all persons who held a permanent pensionable appointment under the Madhya Bharat Government on the 1st April 1949, and those who entered the permanent pensionable service thereafter.

The general insurance in the district is undertaken by a few Joint Stock Companies which have their branches in the district. Three of these companies have their branches at Gwalior :—

- (1) The New India Assurance Company Ltd.
- (2) The New Asiatic Assurance Company Ltd.
- (3) The Indian Trade and General Insurance Company Ltd.

Apart from these three companies, the local branch office of the Life Insurance Corporation also represents the Oriental Fire and General Insurance Company, Ltd. A fair portion of the general insurance business in the district is also transacted by the agents of certain other companies, such as, the Ruby General Insurance Company, Ltd., the Universal General Insurance Company, Ltd., the Vulcan Insurance Company, Ltd., the Sterling General Insurance Company, Ltd., and the Indian Globe Insurance Company, Ltd. A major part of their business is the insurance of motor vehicles.

Coverage of the risk of personal accident continues to remain both in the private and in the public sector. The insurance companies engaged in general insurance business also cover the risk of personal accident including permanent disability and temporary disability. This risk is also covered by Life Insurance Corporation on payment of an additional premium with the Life Insurance Corporation policies. The premium rates of private companies are comparatively less than that of the Life Insurance Corporation.

Some of the large establishments, such as the Madhya Bharat Roadways, which is the biggest fleet-owning concern and some large commercial and industrial enterprises like J. C. Mills Ltd., Gwalior Rayon and Silk Manufacturing Co., Ltd., J. B. Mangharam and Co., Ltd., and Central India Machinery Manufacturing Co., Ltd., have their own arrangements for insurance against various risks to which their respective personnel are exposed. The total premium income for risk insurance of these firms and the private companies put together would be in the neighbourhood of Rs. 10 lakhs a year.

#### STATE ASSISTANCE TO INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Since the credit facilities which the banks could provide are, in their very nature, limited in scope, it was necessary to provide other agencies for financing the growing industries. In the former State of Madhya Bharat a beginning was



made in 1951 when the State Financial Corporation Act was passed. But it took some time before 'The Madhya Bharat Financial Corporation' could be set up, and it was actually established in 1955 with its headquarters at Indore. After the formation of the new State of Madhya Pradesh the name of the Corporation was changed to 'Madhya Pradesh Financial Corporation'.

The main purpose of the Corporation is to supplement the activities of the Industrial Finance Corporation of India by aiding private enterprise through long and medium term credit to qualified industrial small-scale establishments. Since its inception the Corporation has sanctioned and disbursed the following loans to industries in Gwalior district:—

Industries	Loan No.	Sanctioned amount	Loan No.	Disbursed amount
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
		Rs.		Rs.
1. Cold storage .. ..	3	6,70,000	1	2,50,000
2. Cycle and cycle parts ..	1	1,60,000		Loans not yet lifted
3. Refrigeration and air conditioning	1	5,00,000		Do.

The loans are granted against adequate security, such as first legal mortgage of land, industrial plant, etc., and is advanced in suitable instalments. The loan is repayable in specified number of instalments, not exceeding 20, and interest at present is charged at six per cent per annum.

State's Industries department also extends financial assistance to small scale and cottage industries. This financial assistance was given during the year 1957 to 1961 to the extent shown below:—

Years	Amount in rupees given to small scale and cottage industries
(1)	(2)
	Rs.
1957-58 .. ..	2,03,200
1958-59 .. ..	52,250
1959-60 .. ..	43,900
1960-61 .. ..	33,250
Total	3,32,600

### CURRENCY AND COINAGE

Gwalior had a regular mint for minting its copper currency during the regime of Daulat Rao Sindhia in the beginning of 19th century. The mint seldom struck coins in gold, except for the special purposes. A significant currency reform took place in 1898-99 when the local currency was replaced by British rupees. Referring to this the Administration Report for the period makes the following observations:—



"Since August 1898, when the reforms for the conversion of local currencies into *Kaldar* rupees was initiated, the  $4\frac{1}{2}$  districts ( $\frac{1}{2}$  of one district settled in Chandori) in which Gwalior rupees alone were current have been resettled in British rupees for a period of seven years on terms very favourable and eagerly accepted by the revenue payers. At the same time, all Gwalior and Chandori coin presented at the local treasuries of the above five districts were exchanged for British rupees at par in the case of the Gwalior coin and at the rate of 112.8 for 100 *Kaldar* for the Chandori coin. Between six and seven lakhs of British rupees were sufficient to purchase all the local coin tendered. The revised system for the collection of revenue in the above districts in the British currency was introduced in November 1898, and the instalments due for November and December were collected with greater ease than had ever before been experienced. Since November, 1898 the Revenue Department has been engaged in the reassessment in British currency of the districts hitherto assessed in the Chandori coin. The new assessment was to have been introduced last May. Arrangements have also been made for the purchase of all Chandori coin tendered at district treasuries. Again since August, 1898 all contracts for customs etc., have to be tendered for in the British coin and all sales of stamps, judicial or documentary, are negotiated in the same currency. Since November 1898 all establishments at Gwalior and Lashkar and in all districts settled in British rupees are paid in the British currency. There only remains the Province of Malwa, where the *Hali* coin is current, and it is hoped that this Province will have been successfully dealt with before the *Sambat* year 1956 (1899-1900) closes".<sup>1</sup> Nevertheless, the State was allowed to issue copper coins which were half anna and one *paisa* pieces. The Gwalior mint stopped functioning in 1948 following the formation of the Madhya Bharat State.

The switch-over to decimal currency and new coinage which took place in April 1957, is steadily gaining ground, and although prices continue to be quoted, especially in rural areas, in the old currency, the decimal system is beginning to take root. This is further assisted by the introduction of the metric system of weights and measures.

### TRADE AND COMMERCE

Situated astride the main highway leading from Bombay to Agra and Delhi, Gwalior city and the district form an important centre of trade and commerce. The district imported all kinds of commodities--ranging from articles of necessity and daily need to luxury articles and miscellaneous goods. The table given at Appendix XV shows the decadewise consolidated figures of imports and exports to and from Gwalior district for the period 1911 to 1941. It will be seen that the principal items of imports were grains, oils, drugs, wood and fodder, etc. The articles exported from the district also included cattle and leather, oils, metals and ceramics. The pattern of imports appears to have

1. Report on the Administration of Central India Agency, 1898-99, pp. 2-3.



undergone a change with the beginning of the Five Year Development Plans. The table below illustrates how there has been a striking increase in the annual value of certain types of commodities such as diesel oil, chemicals, machinery, etc., during the three years 1956 to 1959.

**Annual Value of Imports into Gwalior Town**

Items	1956-57	1957-58	1958-59
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Diesel oil, mobil oil, motor spirit etc. . . . .	7,41,284	11,36,256	14,21,440
2. Acid and chemicals. . . . .	7,60,448	13,81,222	19,61,728
3. Motor accessories, cycle and rickshaw accessories etc.	50,10,160	62,82,893	65,86,676
4. Miscellaneous machinery. . . . .	21,29,968	48,31,232	60,82,483
5. Electrical goods. . . . .	11,05,472	14,00,064	16,71,117
6. Stationery. . . . .	17,31,808	24,27,904	27,67,300
7. Medicines and drugs. . . . .	19,11,936	25,16,378	26,31,066

*Source*—Compiled from figures received from Gwalior Nagar Palika Nigam, Lashkar.

The pattern of exports from the district has also undergone a corresponding change during the period of the last 15 years. Gwalior produces a wide variety of the better class of carpets and crockery, which find a good market in many parts of the country. Further other products such as leather goods, engineering goods, rayon and hosiery products, biscuits and confectionaries are also exported in increasing quantities to different parts of the country and also abroad. Among the other articles which figure in the exports from this district are oilseeds, food grains, pulses, sugar, household utensils, textiles, tiles and clay pipes, stone, iron-ore and other minerals *viz.*, white clay, red earth and ochres, forest products such as gum and catechu, textile machinery, etc.

In the absence of district-wise export statistics, the Rail Borne Trade Statistics given below, collected from the Gwalior Railway Station Returns may throw some light on the probable trend of export trade of this district. It does not provide a full picture because, it does not take into account goods booked from other railway stations in the district nor the road traffic. Besides, the destination of all goods booked from Gwalior railway station may not be outside the district.

**Goods Outward In Maunds**

Year	Cotton goods	Oil	Other food grains	Hide & Skin	General goods	Railway material	Seeds
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1956-57	..	50561	36920	877831	11868	423840	52562
1957-58	..	16186	52102	444941	N. A.	261362	63819
1958-59	..	19005	216637	864948	57869	202957	54132

50665

65225

26639



### Regulated Markets

The regulated markets are established to enable agriculturists to bring their produce to be sold by open auction, so that the sellers get the most competitive price. The products are brought by the cultivators and small traders by carts to the *mandis*. The management of these *mandis* is vested in local bodies. In Gwalior district there are three regulated markets—one each in Gwalior, Lashkar and Morar—and are controlled by two 'Mandi Committees' who deal with all local trade matters and act as arbitrators. In order to be self-supporting these committees are authorised to collect licence fees from commission agents and brokers and certain levies on carts, etc.

The Mandi Committee accounts are audited by Government Auditor and they are under statutory obligation to supply information regarding prices, stocks and movements of agricultural produce. The Regulated Markets have helped a great deal in the development of agricultural trade, benefiting both producers and consumers.

The 'Cart Borne Trade' in some of the principal grains and seeds in the Lashkar Mandi for the year ending 31st March 1959 was as follows :—

Items (1)	Maunds (2)
Paddy	1,97,280
Wheat	1,16,125
Gur	18,950
Gram	13,607
Masoor	7,489
Moong	2,760
Rice	3,020
Jowar	1,280
Mustard	760
Sesamum	680
Tur	640

Gwalior is also an important centre for a large wholesale *mandi*, and since the main agricultural produce of this region are paddy, wheat, gram, *jowar*, *bajra*, barley, *moong*, *tur* and other pulses, sesamum, linseed etc., the merchants and traders of this district conduct sizable trade in these commodities. The main wholesale markets in their order of importance are Lashkar, Gwalior, Morar, Dabra and Bhandar. Lashkar is also a main commodity and grocery market and occupies a prominent position in respect of the turn-over of heavy machines, tools and their accessories, apparatus and equipments, and pottery. The Gwalior city market does major business in cotton and pressed goods, textiles, biscuits and confectionary while in Dabra and Morar markets there is a preponderance of sugar, and leather goods respectively.



Generally the agricultural produce is brought directly by the farmers to the grain *mandis* where various commission agents sell them. The commission agents still play a vital role in the *mandis* of Gwalior district. Between the cultivators and commission agents are the village traders who sometimes purchase the produce of various cultivators at the village site during harvest and bring it to the *mandis*, thus saving the agriculturists the worries connected with carriage, etc. The village trader deals with the commission agents (*Arhatiya*) who has to be paid his share of commission, brokerage and certain other incidental charges.

The commission agents in their turn dispose of the produce to wholesale dealers, who then sell the goods to retailers who are the last link in the long chain of intermediaries that connects the actual consumer to the producer.

The retail market is spread widely in the district. Every locality in Greater Gwalior and every town of the district is a retail marketing centre in the sense that articles of daily use such as grain and pulses, grocery, cloth and general merchandise can be had from there. But among all of them Lashkar occupies a significant position in the district. Situated in the vicinity of Bada, in the heart of the city, there are numerous retail shops well-stocked with a variety of goods in each of which some articles of sale preponderate over others. Besides Lashkar, Dabra, Morar and Bhandar are also important retail marketing centres.

The commission agents in their turn dispose of the produce to wholesale a religious festival or pilgrimage with a brisk and varied retailing of goods of all kinds. In rural areas where there is neither a demand nor the facility for a permanent marketing centre the periodical fair is an occasion for the selling of the produce of all the neighbouring villages. The larger villages are centres of *hat*, held either weekly or bi-weekly. At these bazars not only the villagers from all neighbouring places within reach bring their produce and wares, but also the small traders from the towns in the area gather and make their bargains.

There are several places in the district where on certain periods of the year a large-scale fair is held which attracts people not only from the district but even from outside. Some of the more important fairs of this nature are given in the following table :—

S. No.	Name of place	Month in which fair is held	Importance of fairs and specific description	Place where fairs are held
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1	Bhandar	.. Feb. and March	Ramlila fair—Religious	Bhandar
2	Gwalior	.. August	Chakri fair—Regarding Sports Association.	Hazira
3	Gwalior	.. August	Urs—In memory of the great singer, Tansen.	Hazira



(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
4	Morar, Lashkar ..	September	Fair of Ganpati—Religious	
5	Lashkar ..	October	Dussehra—Religious	Jiwaji Chowk
6	Lashkar ..	October	Diwali—Religious	Mela ground
7	Gwalior ..	Dec. 20th to Jan. 10th	Industries fair and agri-cultural exhibition—	Mela ground
8	Jageshwar ..	July	Religious ..	On the road to Tigra.
9	Bhadawana ..	May	Religious ..	On the road to Singhpur.
10	Bhitarwar ..	Feb. & March	Shivratri fair—Religious	Bhitarwar
11	Pichhore ..	March/April	Harisidh fair—Religious	Devijika Maidan at Pichhore.

By far the most important of the fairs mentioned above is the Annual Industries Fair and Agricultural Exhibition held generally from the 20th December to 10th January each year at Gwalior. Originally instituted by Maharaja Madhav Rao Sindhia to encourage industry and agriculture in his State the fair and exhibition have grown in stature and have assumed an all-India character over the years. Spread over an area of nearly two square miles, with a number of masonry-built structure for running stalls, with all amenities like water and light laid on, this annual *mela* has become a spectacular display of a large variety of agricultural and industrial goods which come from all parts of India for sale and for exhibition. Several state governments, and the Government of India, besides practically all important industries in the private sector, take part in this fair. Thus, though still described as a fair, this annual emporium has now little of the rural quality that is denoted by that word.

### CONSUMERS' COOPERATIVES

There is no Central Cooperative store in the district for carrying on wholesale trade and to affiliate the primary cooperative stores. There are, however, 10 working primary cooperative stores which serve the consumers in the district. Most of them are constituted by the members of an institution or establishment, to serve their needs. The table below gives the names and general nature of their business :—

Name of Cooperative store	Date of registration	Commodities
(1)	(2)	(3)
1. Dabra Sugar Mill Cooperative store Ltd., Dabra.	25-5-1942	General Merchandise and Grocery.
2. Victoria College Cooperative Store Ltd., Lashkar.	29-4-1943	Books, Stationery etc.



	(1)	(2)	(3)
3.	The Gwalior Sale and Purchase Dhan Mill Cooperative Society Ltd, Dabra.	13-2-1947	Fertilizers, Grain, etc.
4.	The Cooperative Marketing Society Ltd., Morar.	25-2-1947	Fertilizers, Grain, etc.
5.	The Azad Hind Cooperative Store Ltd., Bhitwar.	27-10-1948	Grocery.
6.	The G. R. Medical College, Co-operative Store Ltd., Gwalior.	3-5-1952	Stationery, Books, etc.
7.	The Government Extension Training Centre Cooperative Store Ltd. Antri.	8-2-1954	Grocery and Stationery.
8.	Railwaymen's Consumers' Store, Ltd., Lashkar.	11-1-1956	General Merchandise.
9.	Tilak Nagar Cooperative Store Ltd., Lashkar.	11-1-1956	Grocery.
10.	The Cooperative Marketing Society Ltd., Lashkar	11-3-1957	General Goods.

### Chamber of Commerce

A Chamber of Commerce was formed in former Gwalior State in 1906 about the same time when the department of Trade and Commerce was established in that State. The Chamber was registered as a limited body in 1912. There were five trade associations affiliated to the Chamber in 1947, and it had a membership of about 69. The opinion of the Chamber used to be invited by Government on important matters affecting trade and commerce, and it served as the forum for expressing the difficulties felt by the profession. In 1940 it became a member of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry. In 1958 there were 14 other Merchants and Trade Associations in Gwalior.

For the dissemination of trade news the following Journals are published at Gwalior:—

1. Monthly Bulletin of the Madhya Pradesh Chamber of Commerce and Industry.
2. Journal of the Homoeopathic and Biochemic Association.
3. Monthly Journal of the Gwalior Wholesale Cloth Merchants Association.

### Labour Organisation

In view of the two industrial centres of Gwalior and Dabra, the district is an important centre for organised labour. The labour unions are affiliated to one or the other of the all India Labour Organizations, viz., the Indian National Trade Union Congress or the All India Trade Union Congress.



Up to the end of March 1959, there were 41 trade and labour unions in Gwalior district registered under the Trade Unions Act, 1926, two of which were registered at Dabra and the rest at Gwalior. These unions together have a total membership of 11,515.

### WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Concerning the weights and measures used in former Gwalior State, Capt. Luard gives the following account in the *Gwalior State Gazetteer*:—

"The weights used in the case of precious stones are made of metal usually brass or of earthenware. Besides precious stones, silk, thread, etc., are also weighed by this measure.

8 Khashkas	...	1 Chanwal.
8 Chanwals	...	1 Ratti.
8 Rattis	...	1 Masha.
12 Mashas	...	1 Tola.
5 Tolas	...	1 Chhatak.

"For articles of bulk, weights of maunds and seers, etc., are made of iron and are flat, round or conical pieces. All heavy articles of bulk, such as grain, fuel, alkali, cotton, drugs, rice, sugar, certain spices and sweetmeats, vegetables and fruits are weighed by these measures.

4 Chhataks	1 Paua.
2 Pauas	1 Adhsera (1 lb.).
2 Adhseras or 4 Pauas	1 Seer.
5 Seers	1 Panseri.
20 Seers.	1 Kham, Maund or Adhaun.
40 Seers or 8 panseries	1 Maund (Pakka Md.).
6 Maundas	1 Mani.

"The measures used for capacity are made of brass, copper and earthenware resembling a cup in shape. Bottles and half-bottles are also used. Milk and wine are generally weighed. Syrups and kerosene oil are also sold by these measures.

2 Chhataks	1 Adhapai.
4 Adhapais	1 Adha or semi bottle.
2 Adhas	1 Bottle.
20 Bottles	1 Canister.

Apothecaries use the following:—

6 Rattis	1 Dag.
3 Mashas	1 Diram.
4 Mashas	1 Misqal.
14 Mashas	1 Dam.



"Measures called *Paiya* and *Bariya*, made of wood and shaped like a tumbler are used in villages in selling grain, berries, etc.

1 <i>Bariya</i>	$2\frac{1}{2}$ <i>Pauas</i> (i.e., 10 <i>Chhataks</i> ).
1 <i>Paiya</i>	6 <i>Seers</i> .

"Yard measures are made of iron or bamboo, marked in *Girahs* and *Ungals*. Cloth, cotton and woolen substances are measured by yards\* :—

8 <i>Jau</i>	1 <i>Ungal</i> .
4 <i>Ungals</i>	1 <i>Girah</i> .
4 <i>Girahs</i>	1 <i>Bilishta</i> .
2 <i>Bilishtas</i>	1 <i>Hath</i> .
2 <i>Haths</i>	1 <i>Yard</i> .
3 <i>Jau</i>	1 <i>Inch</i> .
12 <i>Inches</i>	1 <i>Foot</i> .
3 feet	1 <i>Yard</i> .

"Silken and cotton thread are often sold by weight. *Lachhas* (bundles) of woollen thread are sold by number. The dozen and *kori* or score are the units in ordinary use."<sup>1</sup> The following surface measures are chiefly used in measuring land; stone, timber and lime are similarly measured<sup>2</sup>.—

3 <i>Gaz</i>	.. .. .	1 <i>Gattha</i> ,
20 <i>Gaz</i> or 60 yards—	.. .. .	1 <i>Jarih</i> (chain)

In measuring timber, the following table is used:—

4 <i>Sut</i>	.. .. .	1 <i>pan</i>
4 <i>Pans</i>	.. .. .	1 <i>Tassu</i>
12 <i>Tassus</i>	.. .. .	1 <i>Yard</i>

In measuring surface, the following measures are used:—

20 <i>Anwansi</i>	.. .. .	1 <i>Kachwansi</i>
20 <i>Kachwansi</i>	.. .. .	1 <i>Biswansi</i>
20 <i>Biswansi</i>	.. .. .	1 <i>Biswa</i>
20 <i>Biswas</i>	.. .. .	1 <i>Bigha</i>
1.936 <i>Bighas</i>	.. .. .	1 <i>Acre</i> 3

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\*Tailors have a yard 18 girhas long made of a cloth.

1. Gwalior State Gazetteer pp. 78-79.

2. Square feet are used in measuring in some of the parganas.

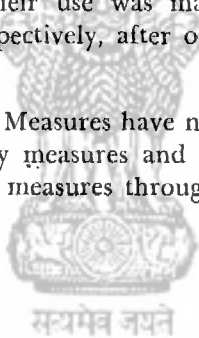
3. Gwalior State Gazetteer pp. 79.80.



Under the orders of the former Gwalior State the use of weights and measures which are not made in the State Government Workshops was made a cognizable offence. It was the statutory function of the Mandi Committee to enforce the use of the standard weights and measures in the markets. The Commerce Inspectors also used to check the weights in use whenever they went on tour.

With a view to introducing a uniform system of weights and measures in the country, the Government of India enacted the Standards of Weights and Measures Act, 1956, and the State Government enacted the M. P. Weights and Measures (Enforcement) Act, 1959. The provisions of the Act, so far as unit of mass was concerned, were introduced in this district for the first time from 1st October 1958, with two years' transitional period in which the old weights could also be used along with the new metric weights. The use of metric weights was later made compulsory in this area from 1st October, 1960. Similarly, the provisions of the Act, so far as the units of capacity measures and length measures are concerned, were introduced respectively, from 1st May 1961 and 1st October 1961, and their use was made compulsory from 1st May, 1962 and 1st October 1962 respectively, after one year's transitional period for each.

Thus the old Weights and Measures have now been replaced in this district by the metric weights, capacity measures and length measures and there is a uniform system of weights and measures throughout this district.





## CHAPTER VII

### COMMUNICATIONS

No precise accounts regarding roads and other means of communication in the district upto the 16th century are available, but because of the fact that Gwalior had a long and eventful history, it may be assumed that some major roads must have existed to serve the needs of the region. It is in the 16th century that we have evidence of a systematic road construction in the area around Gwalior. Sher Shah Sur who seized power at Delhi invested the Gwalior fort in 1540, and himself occupied the fort in 1542. The place was an important stronghold of Sher Shah, and was practically considered as the capital of the Sur dynasty. In this context it is interesting that the *Tarikh-i-Sher Shahi* contains the following description of the roads built by Sher Shah:—

“For the convenience in travelling of poor travellers, on every road, at a distance of two *kos*, he made a *sarai*..... On both sides of the highway Sher Shah planted fruit-bearing trees, such as also gave much shade, that in the hot wind travellers might go along under the trees; and if they should stop by the way, might rest and take repose.”<sup>1</sup>

Road development in the district continued to progress under the Mughul rulers. The *Chahar Gulshan* which was written in the 18th century gives a list of important roads which formed the main highways during the Mughul period. A road passed from Fathehabad in Gwalior to Ujjain where it turned east and met the main route at Doraha in Bhopal State.<sup>2</sup>

The following account of a journey from Surat to Agra undertaken by William Finch, an English merchant, in 1610 will serve to illustrate how inspite of difficulties long distance travel was possible even in those days.

“At Burhanpur the road left the Tapti and struck north-west for Mandu and Malwa, crossing the Satpura range and the Narbada river, and then ascending the steep scrap of the Vindhya.” The tract was very bad. successive marches being described as ‘stony and steep way’, ‘stony troublesome way’ and ‘steep way’, while the ascent to Mandu was ‘up a steep stony mountain having way but for a coach at most’. After Mandu there was one more bad stage, and then a good road to Ujjain.<sup>3</sup>

From Ujjain the road continued towards Agra via Gwalior. The principal stages<sup>4</sup> of this route were:—

#### (1) Surat to Burhanpur—132 *Kos*.

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1. Elliot and Dowson, *The History of India as told by its own Historians*, Vol. IV, pp. 417-18.

2. Gwalior State Gazetteer, p. 81.

3. Quoted in ‘Our Roads’, p. 20.

4. Tavernier, *Travels in India*, Vol. I, p. 64.



(2) Burhanpur to Sironj—101 Kos.

(3) Sironj to Narwar—51 Kos.

(4) Narwar to Antri—12 Kos.

(5) Antri to Gwalior—6 Kos.

(6) Gwalior to Dholpur—19 Kos.

The road finally terminated at Agra. The well-known traveller Tavernier, who moved about in India between 1640 and 1667, has left a very informative account of his experiences. He makes a reference to this highway and says :—

"The only difficulty of travel in these days is that with the advent of the monsoon traffic is brought to a standstill. During the hot weather, fodder and water were difficult to get and this restricted the range of road travel."

This route has also been mentioned by other travellers like Terry, Mandelslo, Thomas Roe, Peter Mundy, etc. In view of the high strategic importance of this trunk road, the construction of the Agra-Bombay road was started in 1840 by the East India Company. The Company received considerable financial contribution from Gwalior State also for its completion. In 1866 after 26 years of construction, this road was handed over to Gwalior State, who undertook its proper maintenance within the State territory. Fortythree miles (68.80 Kilo-metres) of the Agra-Bombay road runs through Gwalior district. It enters the district at the 67 mile, near Banmor (in Morena district) and leaves the district at mile 109, near Mohana village. The table below indicates the cost of maintenance of the national highways and other roads in the district from 1953 to 1959-60 :—

Serial No.	Year	Mileage of Highways		Cost of Maintenance	
		National Highways	Other roads	National Highways	Other roads
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
		Kilo metres	Kilo metres	Rs.	Rs.
1	1953-54 .. .. .	68.80	249.20	92,291	2,26,732
2	1954-55 .. .. .	Do.	Do.	1,08,366	3,97,943
3	1955-56 .. .. .	Do.	Do.	84,984	6,91,990
4	1956-57 .. .. .	Do.	Do.	1,65,329	6,42,848
5	1957-58 .. .. .	Do.	Do.	81,493	5,09,110
6	1958-59 .. .. .	Do.	368.99	30,136	4,73,965
7	1959-60 .. .. .	Do.	Do.	N.A.	N.A.

NOTE.—Figures in column (4) are exclusive of Municipal Roads, Fair weather roads and village roads.

Source.—Executive Engineer, P. W. D., (B & R) Gwalior Division.



The present classification of roads is based on the resolution of the Indian Road Congress passed at the Nagpur Session in 1943. It broadly classified the road system into two types: (1) **Main Roads** consisting of National Highways, State Highways and Major District Roads, which form the main system throughout the length and breadth of the country; and (2) **Other Roads** consisting of minor District Roads and classified Village Roads, serve the interior of the district connecting rural centres and function as branches and feeders of the main roads.

The following table shows the categorywise distribution of roads in the whole State and in the district of Gwalior on the 31st March, 1959.

Serial No.	Class of Road	Length in the State		Length in the district	
		Miles	Kilometres	Miles	Kilometres
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1	National Highways .. ..	1392.62	2228.00	43.00	68.80
2	State Highways .. ..	3271.62	5244.40	71.40	114.24
3	Major District Roads .. ..	4331.12	6929.79	69.40	111.04
4	Minor District Roads .. ..	4803.90	7686.24	89.75	43.60
5	Village & Community Development Roads.	1523.62	2437.79	26.12	41.79
6	Municipal Roads .. ..	N. A.	N. A.	43.50	68.60
Total ..		15,322.88	24,526.22	343.17	549.07

Source.—1. Executive Engineer, P. W. D., Gwalior (for Col. 5).

2. Statistical Abstract of M. P. 1958-59 (for Col. 3).

3. Municipal Corporation, Gwalior (for item No. 6).

Thus the total length of roads in the district works out to 2.24 per cent of the State's total road length. Taking the 1961 Census figures of the population of the district, namely 6,58,126 we find that for every one lakh of population, there are 52.00 miles of roads as compared with corresponding ratio of 52.14 miles to one lakh population for the State. In relation to the area of the district, we find that every 100 square miles of area is served by 17.42 miles of roads in the district. The corresponding ratio for the whole State is 8.96 miles for 100 square miles.

### National Highways

As the word implies, they constitute the main arteries of communications in the country. This district is traversed by one National Highway having a length of 43.00 miles. This forms 3.08 per cent of the total mileage of National Highways in the State.

Serial No.	National Highways	Length	
		Miles	Kilometres
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1	Agra-Bombay Road .. ..	43.00	68.80

Source—Executive Engineer P. W. D., (B. and R.) Gwalior.



This road is in good condition and is maintained by the State Public Works Department on an agency basis. The Central Government gives the State Government  $7\frac{1}{2}$  per cent of the cost of maintenance as agency charges. The expenditure on maintenance is met out of the Central Road Fund.

### State Highways

The State Highways are all-weather roads in the district which connect important towns. There is a total length of 71.40 miles of highways as shown below:—

Serial No. (1)	Name of the Highways (2)	Length	
		Miles (3)	Kilometres (4)
1	Gwalior—Jhansi Road .. .. .	32.75	52.40
2	Gwalior—Etawah Road .. .. .	11.25	18.00
3	Bhander—Bhind Road .. .. .	18.00	28.85
4	Bhander—Chirgaon Road .. .. .	9.40	14.99
Total .. .. .		71.40	114.24

Source.—Executive Engineer, P. W. D., (B. and R.) Gwalior.

A length of 32.75 miles of the Gwalior-Jhansi road passes through the district. Out of this length, the surface of 31 miles is asphalted and the rest 1.75 miles is water bound macadam. Dabra is an important place situated on the 18th mile of this road, and about four miles later the road leaves the district, and enters Datia district.

The Gwalior-Etawah road connects Gwalior with an important town of Uttar Pradesh, and is of great commercial value. The total length of the portion passing through the district is 11.25 miles. This entire length is asphalted. The Maharajpur aerodrome is situated on this road. The road leaves the district at Malanpur village which is situated at the 11th mile.

The total mileage constitutes 2.18 per cent of the road length in this State. All roads are in a fairly good condition and are being maintained and repaired by the State Public Works Department.

### Major District Roads

These roads connect principal markets and industrial centres with the main road or rail-heads. The following are the four roads in the district which fall in this category, and their total mileage is 69.40.

Serial No. (1)	Name of the Road (2)	Length	
		Miles (3)	Kilo metres (4)
1	Mohanpur—Singhpur Road .. .. .	13.50	21.60
2	Singhpur—Behat Road .. .. .	8.65	13.84
3	Dabra—Jangipur Road .. .. .	9.50	15.20



(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
4	Lashkar—Tigra Road .. .. .	8.50	13.60
5	Harsi—Bhitarwar Road .. .. .	12.00	19.20
6	Dabra—Bhitarwar Road .. .. .	17.25	27.60
	Total .. .. .	69.40	111.04

*Source*—Executive Engineer, P. W. D. (B. and R.) Gwalior.

All these roads are metalled and in good condition and are maintained by the State Public Works Department. The road mileage works out to 1.60 per cent of the State's total of Major District Roads.

### Minor District Roads

The roads mostly meet the requirement of the rural population of the district. They connect the villages with tahsil headquarters. Gwalior district has 89.75 miles of minor district roads and they form 1.86 per cent of the roads of this category in the State. The following are the minor district roads in the district.

Serial No.	Name of the Road	Length	
		Miles	Kilo-metres
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1	Aron—Ghatigaon Road .. .. .	6.25	10.00
2	Ranighati Road .. .. .	3.62	5.80
3	Naulakha—Saunsa Road .. .. .	7.12	11.40
4	Harsi—Magroni Road .. .. .	4.37	7.20
5	Susera Village Road .. .. .	6.25	10.00
6	Others .. .. .	62.14	99.40
	Total .. .. .	89.75	143.80

*Source*. —Executive Engineer, P.W.D. (B. and R.) Gwalior.

The condition of these roads is fairly satisfactory and they are maintained by the State Public Works Department.

### Village and Community Development Roads

Roads built by Community Development Blocks are the only important roads falling under this category. With the inauguration of the Community Development Programme in the district in 1951, roads aggregating to about 26.12 miles have been constructed with the contribution of voluntary labour. They serve as good approach roads for villages, and help to link many villages to the main roads.

**Accessibility of Villages.**—The average distance of any village from a road is 3.27 miles. The following table shows the road facility in the rural areas of the district:—



Villages		Population		Distance from the road
Number (1)	Percentage (2)	Total (3)	Percentage (4)	
597	72.25	4,16,476	84.4	Within 5 miles.
174	21.85	61,926	12.6	Within 5-10 miles.
48	5.90	14,828	3.0	Within 10-20 miles.

The above table indicates that 72.25 per cent of the villages having 84.4 per cent of the rural population have fairly good road facility and 21.85 per cent of the villages having 12.6 per cent of the population are fairly to inadequately connected, while 5.90 per cent of the villages having 3.00 per cent of the population are not satisfactorily served by the road system. All these roads are maintained by the State Public Works Department.

Apart from these categories of roads there is a total length of 43.50 miles of Gwalior city Municipal roads which are classified under two categories of first and second class roads. First class roads are, broadly speaking, roads which connect the important business and market centres of the city and carry the traffic of main roads. They are of a standard width, properly metalled and regularly repaired. The second class roads are generally feeder roads, passing through lanes and congested, but less important localities. Their width is not standard but varies according to the configuration of the town and they are not as regularly repaired as first class roads.

### Vehicles and Conveyances

The principal means of transport in the district are motor vehicles of all kinds, cycles, horse-drawn tongas and bullock carts.

**Motor vehicles.**—The total number of motor vehicles registered by the Regional Transport Authority, Gwalior, was 4,000 in 1958-59. The table below gives the details of the motor vehicles registered during the last nine years:—

Year	Cars	Buses	Lorries (Trucks)	Motor Cycles	Taxis and Rickshaws	Others	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1950-51..	307	104	105	25	..	49	590
1951-52..	142	43	79	29	..	89	382
1952-53..	126	27	84	26	2	83	348
1953-54..	99	10	78	20	3	58	268
1954-55..	72	49	77	16	..	55	259
1955-56..	122	52	144	36	..	142	496
1956-57..	122	128	24	24	2	139	495
1957-58..	1,082	361	802	203	31	501	2,980
1958-59..	1,204	543	1,169	226	44	704	4,000

NOTE.—(1) Figures do not relate to Gwalior District alone, and are inclusive of other districts falling within the jurisdiction of Regional Transport Authority, Gwalior.

(2) Figures for last two years are cumulative totals for the previous years.

Source.—Regional Transport Officer, Northern Range, Gwalior.



All the motor vehicles mentioned above are subject to taxation under Motor Vehicles Act. The regional Transport Officer, Gwalior, who is the registering authority under the Act, exercises jurisdiction over the six districts of Gwalior revenue division. The table below gives the taxes realised during the years from 1950-51 to 1958-59 for all the districts falling under the jurisdiction of the Regional Transport Officer.

Year	Receipts from			Private cars & Motor cycles	Licenses & Badges	Fitness Certificates	Total
	Regis- tration	Hire Permits					
		Stage	Goods				
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1950-51..	4,312	1,63,009	3,76,436	27,462	12,347	3,016	5,88,23
1951-52..	5,660	1,24,420	3,57,234	34,316	13,489	4,006	5,42,888
1952-53..	4,328	1,49,779	4,44,711	38,162	15,828	4,276	6,59,985
1953-54..	3,921	1,63,759	4,87,853	34,635	16,707	3,573	7,04,891
1954-55..	4,300	2,03,023	4,60,103	32,462	15,946	3,836	7,22,670
1955-56..	6,909	2,22,795	5,43,384	37,408	16,667	5,358	8,38,965
1956-57..	7,936	2,40,077	5,49,207	34,899	20,863	6,105	8,66,199
1957-58..	10,255	2,65,685	5,93,169	40,444	41,395	6,569	9,63,641
1958-59..	8,105	4,51,290	5,25,868	76,492	15,037	7,081	10,89,543

Source—Regional Transport Officer, Northern Range, Gwalior

**Bullock-cart.**—The bullock-cart is still the basic means of transport, especially in areas where the roads are few and their condition poor. Besides, the bullock-cart fits into the pattern of rural economy. The bullocks not only serve as draught animals but also help the villager in his agricultural operations. A correct enumeration of the number of bullock-carts is not available. But out of about 350 carts which are registered by local bodies in the district, 282 belong to Gwalior city alone. The carts pay a registration fee of Rs. 12 per vehicle per year.

The other means of transport which are popular and within reach of the average resident of the district are horse-drawn tongas and bicycles. The number of tongas registered in municipal areas is about 700 which pay an annual tax of about Rs. 8,400. The number of bicycles in the district is fairly large, and they are by no means confined to urban areas. The total number of cycles registered on the 31st March 1960, was about 16,000 and they yield an annual revenue of about Rs. 24,000 to the municipalities.



### Public Transport

Public transport by buses in the district is partly in the public sector and partly private. There are about 223 private buses operating in Gwalior Division of the Regional Transport Authority, covering 215 routes which originate from Gwalior. These buses cover a mileage of 10,271 miles of pukka roads and 2,427 miles of *kutch*a roads. Their daily route mileage is 21,178 on pukka roads and 4,854 miles on *kutch*a roads. Besides, there are in all 74 taxies which include seven cars, 67 auto-rickshaws of which 26 are two-seaters, 31 four-seaters and 10 six-seaters.

The State-owned road transport service in the district is the 'Madhya Bharat Roadways', which has its headquarters at Gwalior. The beginning of a State-owned motor transport service can be traced to the first quarter of the present century. In 1916 a small city bus service was started in Gwalior under the management of Gwalior State Trust Ltd., for the development of commerce and industries in Gwalior State. Later on, in 1921, this organization was expanded and called the Gwalior and Northern India Transport Company with a capital of Rs. 19 lakhs. This company served the needs of Gwalior State as well as certain other neighbouring states. It covered many important towns such as, Saharanpur, Dehradun, Mussoorie, Delhi, Indore, Bhopal, Ujjain, Mhow, Sardarpur, Shahpura etc. In April 1946 the company's undertaking in Gwalior and Central India was taken over by the then Gwalior Government and a commercial concern with the changed name of Gwalior and Central India Transport Services Limited, popularly known as G.C.I.T., was established. With the formation of the State of Madhya Bharat the concern was renamed 'Madhya Bharat Roadways' on the 26th January 1950, and was placed under the administrative control of a General Manager.

The capital investment, at the time when the Gwalior and Central India Transport Service, Ltd., was formed separately from the GNIT, in 1946 was Rs. 6,20,500 which rose to Rs. 8,70,500 in 1949. It stood at the peak level of Rs. 141 lakhs in 1958-59. On 31st December 1960, 64 buses of this concern covering 44 routes were operating from Gwalior depot. The following table shows the details relating to Gwalior depot comprising the districts of Gwalior, Bhind and Morena:—

Serial No.	Year	No. of routes	Route mileage	Daily mileage	No. of operating buses
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1	1958-59 .. .. .	39	2,652	7,346	57
2	1959-60 .. .. .	40	2,880	7,908	60
3	1960-61 .. .. . (as on 31-12-1960)	44	2,962	8,334	64

NOTE.—Figures are inclusive of Bhind and Morena districts.

Source.—General Manager, M.B. Roadways, Gwalior.



The table below shows the passenger traffic carried by the State-owned buses and the earnings of the Gwalior depot for the last three years.

Year	Passengers carried	Mileage	Traffic earnings Rs.	Average per day		
				Passengers	Mileage	Earnings Rs.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1958-59 ...	30,72,820	24,50,690	27,07,550	8,419	6,714	7,418
1959-60 ..	36,21,300	28,24,200	29,35,400	9,894	7,716	8,020
1960-61 .. (as on 31-12-1960).	29,65,870	21,97,670	22,90,240	10,785	7,991	8,328

NOTE.—Figures are inclusive of Bhind and Morena districts.

SOURCE.—General Manager, M. B. Roadways, Gwalior.

### Transport and Roads in Gwalior City

As stated above there are within the limits of the Municipal Corporation of Gwalior 43.5 miles of roads (on 31st March 1960) maintained by the Corporation. These roads are classified as first class roads and second class roads. There are 19 miles of road in the city which fall in the category of first class and the rest, 24.5 miles of road, in the second class.

Gwalior was one of the first towns in the country to have a city bus service. The first service was introduced in 1916-17 between Gwalior Railway Station and Morar Cantonment. Since then the city service has steadily grown, so that at present over 4000 passengers are carried by the city bus service every day doing an average run of more than 700 miles each day in the city. Eight buses are plying in the city, and they charge one anna per mile per head for the first two miles and half anna per head per mile for the subsequent distances.

The following table gives the data regarding their operation in the city:—

Year	No. of routes	Route mileage	Daily scheduled mileage	No. of operating buses
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1958-59 ...	3	23	518	6
1959-60 ..	3	23	624	6
1960-61 .. (as on 31-12-1960)	5	34	824	8

SOURCE.—General Manager, M. B. Roadways, Gwalior.

The five routes scheduled in the city cover all its important sectors, and there are 40 scheduled bus stops. The buses carried 11,65,920 passengers, covered 1,99,990 miles and earned Rs. 1,97,380 during the period from 1st April 1960 to



31st December 1960. The following table gives an idea of the progress during the last three years:—

Serial No.	Year			Passengers carried	Mileage covered	Traffic earnings Rs.	Average per day		
							Passengers	Mileage	Earnings Rs.
(1)	(2)			(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1	1958-59	..	..	10,56,116	1,93,629	1,80,669	2,394	531	495
2	1959-60	..	..	13,09,700	2,14,100	2,24,300	3,579	585	613
3	1960-61 (as on 31-12-1960).	..	..	11,65,920	1,99,990	1,97,380	4,240	727	716

Source.—General Manager, M. B. Roadways, Gwalior.

Next to the city transport buses, the transport needs of the people of Gwalior are met by a small fleet of taxi cabs consisting of six motor cars and about seventy auto rickshaws having a seating capacity varying from two to six seats each. The other means of transport available in the city are the following:—

**Cycles.**—They are the chief means of locomotion within the city and are predominantly used by the people belonging to middle class. On 31st December 1960 about 15,894 bicycles were registered by the Municipal Corporation and they paid Rs. 24,421 as tax. The details regarding the previous two years are indicated in the table below.

**Horse-driven Tongas.**—They are important means of communication in the city. About 650 tongas were registered by the Municipal Corporation on the 31st December 1960 and they brought in a revenue of Rs. 7,800 to the Corporation.

**Bullock Carts.**—These vehicles are mainly utilised for transporting goods within the city and about 282 bullock-carts were registered with the Municipal Corporation on the 31st December 1960 which fetched a total of Rs. 3,384. The statement below shows the comparative importance of these vehicles:—

Year			Cycles		Tongas		Bullock carts	
			No.	Receipts	No.	Receipts	No.	Receipts
(1)			(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
				Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
1957-58..	..	..	17,600	26,400	600	7,200	200	2,400
1958-59..	..	..	14,518	21,777	620	7,440	215	2,580
1959-60..	..	..	15,894	24,421	650	7,800	282	3,384
Total	..	..	48,012	72,598	1,870	22,440	697	8,364



Year	Others		Total	
	No.	Receipts	No.	Receipts
(1)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
		Rs.		Rs.
1957-58.. .. .	841	5,553	19,241	41,553
1958-59.. .. .	758	4,684	16,111	36,481
1959-60.. .. .	908	5,928	17,734	41,533
Total .. .. .	2,507	16,165	53,086	1,19,567

*Source*—Municipal Corporation, Gwalior.

## RAILWAYS

Gwalior is situated on the Central Railway's Delhi-Bombay main line and is a junction of this railway. It is also the junction and headquarters of the former Scindia State Railway (Narrow gauge). All trains bound for Bombay, Delhi and Madras pass through this station and halt here.

1. **Central Railway (Standard Gauge line—5' 6").**—This railway line is under the administrative jurisdiction of the Central Railway. The history of the laying of the standard gauge railway line may be traced back to the latter half of the 19th century. The Sindhia rulers took a special interest in developing the rail communications in this area and gave every encouragement to the construction of railway in their State. Early in 1872, the Maharaja helped the British by advancing a perpetual loan of Rs. 75 lakhs for the construction of a standard gauge railway line from Gwalior to Agra. Thus, as a result of Sindhia's initiative, the first railway line constructed in the district was the Gwalior-Agra railway, the total cost of which was about Rs. one crore. It was opened for traffic, both passenger and goods, in four stages<sup>1</sup>:—(1) Jhansi to Gwalior on the 1st March 1889, (2) Gwalior to Hetampur on the 20th December 1879, (3) Hetampur to Dholpur on the 5th August 1881, (4) Dholpur to Agra on the 10th January 1878. With the extension of railway lines during the last three quarters of a century, Gwalior has been linked with all important places, like Bhopal (241 miles), Bilaspur (479 miles) and Raipur (548 miles). Similarly, it is well connected with important places in the country, e.g., Delhi (196 miles), Bombay (761 miles), Calcutta (866 miles), Jhansi (60 miles), Agra (73 miles). The standard gauge line (Jhansi-Agra line) enters the district boundary from Jhansi at Dabra which is the headquarters of Pichhore tahsil. The important stations on Jhansi-Gwalior route are Dabra (26 miles from Gwalior), Antpeth (20 miles from Gwalior), Autri (14 miles from Gwalior), Sandalpur (10 miles from Gwalior) and Sithouli (five miles from Gwalior). The line proceeds further on Gwalior-Agra route and crosses the district boundary at Banmor and the stations within the district are Birlanagar (1½ miles from Gwalior) and Rairu (eight miles from Gwalior).

2. **Central Railway (Narrow Gauge line).**—The narrow gauge railway, formerly known as the Scindia State Railway (2'0" gauge), 294 miles in length,

1. History of Indian Railways, 1958, p. 30.



was integrated with the Central Railway on 5th November 1951. This railway system, including Ujjain-Agar Branch, was constructed, maintained, stocked and worked by the Gwalior Durbar. "The Railway was known as the Gwalior Light Railway upto 1940-41. The working of the trains and traffic of the railway was under the control of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company upto 30th June 1913. As a result of the Federal Financial Integration, with effect from the 1st April 1950, the line came to vest in the Government of India."<sup>1</sup> It was placed under the Great Indian Peninsula Railway upto the 5th November 1951, and thereafter under the Central Railway.

This railway line was constructed by Gwalior State in order to develop the natural resources of the hinter land, especially by the transportation of raw materials. Due to the mountainous nature of the track, the construction of the standard guage line was estimated to involve a very heavy expenditure, and therefore, the present narrow gauge (2' wide) was constructed. At present there are three main sections of this line—(i) Gwalior-Shivpuri Section (74.45 miles), (ii) Gwalior-Sheopur Section (121.92 miles) and (iii) Gwalior-Bhind Section (51.93 miles). In addition to these there are two small sidings worked from Gwalior narrow gauge station:—

(1) Gwalior-Kampoo Kothi siding (2.70 miles) and

(2) Gwalior-Morar Cantt. siding (1.65 miles).

**Gwalior-Shivpuri Section.**—The total length of this section which was opened for traffic on the 2nd December 1899 is 74.45 miles.<sup>2</sup> This section of the narrow gauge line passes through a somewhat barren countryside, where the spurs of Vindhya hills, rocks and light soil make agriculture difficult. There are very few inhabited villages on the route, and the few that exist are far away from one another. Firewood, grass and stones are the main goods carried by railways in this section. There are eleven stations on this line situated at varying distances from Gwalior, *e.g.*, (1) Ghosipura (2.30 miles), (2) Jiawajganj (3.34 miles), (3) Panniar (14.59 miles), (4) Naunanda (21.96 miles), (5) Renhat (30.89 miles), (6) Mohana (38.26 miles), (7) Bhangarh (44.22 miles), (8) Chorepura (50.85 miles), (9) Satanwara (63.68 miles), (10) Mansapuram (72.25 miles) and (11) Shivpuri (74.45 miles). Out of these, the first six stations lie within Gwalior district.

**Gwalior-Sheopur Section.**—The total length of this line is 121.92 miles. Originally the line was constructed only upto Sabalgarh with the object of providing employment to the people of this region during the famine years. Later on

1. History of Indian Railways, 1958, p. 29.

2. *ibid*, p. 57.



this line was further extended upto Sheopur. The table below shows the stagewise progress of construction of this section:—

Name of section		Date of opening	Mileage	Total
(1)		(2)	(3)	(4)
Gwalior to Jora Alapur	..	1-1-1904	29.44	121.92
Jora Alapur to Sabalgarh	..	1-12-1904	26.05	
Sabalgarh to Birpur	.. ..	1-11-1908	19.55	
Birpur to Sheopur	.. ..	15-6-1909	46.88	

*Source*—History of Indian Railways, 1958, p. 57.

Passenger traffic is booked only on the Gwalior-Sabalgarh section because beyond Sabalgarh the line passes through a region which is practically uninhabited; partly because water is scarce in the area and the soil is barren. There are 18 stations on Gwalior-Sheopur section, the important among them being Ghosipura (2.30 miles), Motijheel (5.00 miles), Bamaragaon (11.86 miles), and Sabalgarh (57.52 miles). The stations Ghosipura and Motijheel lie within the district.

**Gwalior-Blind Section.**—This line which was opened for traffic on the 2nd December 1899, has a total length of 51.93 miles. It traverses the most fertile and thickly populated part of the district. There are eight stations on this line situated at varying distances from Gwalior e.g., Gola-ka-Mandir (2.25 miles), Sanichara (12.35 miles), Rithora Kalan (15.63 miles), Nonera (20.10 miles), Gohad Road (27.30 miles), Soni (37.50 miles), Itchar (44.60 miles) and Blind (51.93 miles). The Stations Gola-ka-Mandir and Sanichara lie within the district.

**Gwalior Kampoo Kothi Siding.**—This railway siding was completed and opened for traffic on the 29th November 1925, primarily to serve the needs of the industrial establishments at Kampoo, such as the Gwalior Potteries, the Gwalior Engineering Works, etc., located in this area. The length of this siding is 2.70 miles.

**Gwalior-Morar Cantonment Siding.**—This siding at one time was of considerable importance because of the military cantonment at Morar which it connected. It has now lost much of its value due to the shifting of most of the military troops from there. The siding was opened for traffic on the 1st November 1924 and has a total mileage of about 1.65 miles.



It is thus clear that the district is fairly well served by railways. The following table shows the existing facilities for communication by rail in the rural areas.

No. of villages	Population (1941 census)	Distance from a railway line
(1)	(2)	(3)
302	3,13,617	Within 5 miles.
271	95,539	Within 5-10 miles.
187	63,263	Within 10-20 miles.
61	20,813	Above 20 miles.

One of the major consequences of the opening of railways in the district was the rapid increase in the movement of goods by rail, which almost trebled in the course of ten years. The principal commodities exported were raw cotton, grain, pulses, hides and skin, leather, sugar, tobacco, wood, etc. The articles imported were coal and coke, cotton, gunny bags, cloth, metal, kerosene oil, salt, machinery, etc.

The table given below shows the traffic carried by rail including the number of passengers carried, and the quantity and value of goods transported on the broad gauge stations in Gwalior district during the period 1948-49 to 1958-59 :—

Year	Passengers carried	Transport of goods (quantity in maunds)	Transport of goods (Value in Rs.)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1948-49 .. ..	6,06,266	10,49,297	9,04,749
1949-50 .. ..	7,80,191	25,39,860	23,90,435
1950-51 .. ..	8,86,618	17,86,713	16,62,457
1951-52 .. ..	9,01,880	14,68,012	14,94,409
1952-53 .. ..	8,60,332	5,81,971	5,85,367
1953-54 .. ..	8,44,069	12,64,992	12,91,633
1954-55 .. ..	8,80,316	17,38,185	20,07,686
1955-56 .. ..	8,40,368	22,27,814	24,81,960
1956-57 .. ..	9,06,007	29,71,371	27,60,328
1957-58 .. ..	9,73,405	29,25,938	34,42,595
1958-59 .. ..	9,24,109	33,26,678	44,84,677
Grand Total ..	94,03,611	2,18,80,831	2,34,46,301

Source.—Divisional Superintendent, Central Railway, Jhansi.



**Passengers traffic.**—The table shows that during the period under consideration, the highest number of passengers carried was 9,73,405 in the year 1957-58 followed by 9,24,109 in 1958-59 and 9,06,007 in 1956-57. It will be seen that there was considerable fluctuation in the number of passengers from year to year for which it is difficult to ascribe any clear reason.

**Goods traffic.**—The table also shows the details of goods transported by the railways on the broad gauge system. The largest quantity of goods transported was 33,26,678 maunds in 1958-59 followed by 29,71,371 maunds in 1956-57 and 29,25,938 maunds in 1957-58. In respect of the value of goods transported, it will be seen that the highest value was in 1958-59 when goods worth Rs. 44,84,677 were transported as compared with goods of Rs. 34,42,595 in 1957-58 and Rs. 27,60,328 in 1956-57. Thus there was a steady increase in the value of goods transported from 1952-53 onwards.

On the narrow gauge system the passenger traffic is not considerable. On an average about 1,082 passengers were carried daily during 1959-60. In the same year over three lakhs maunds of goods were carried over the narrow gauge system.

**Rail Road Competition.**—Competition between rail and road transport in the district is noticeable mainly in respect of goods traffic, especially on the routes Gwalior-Shivpuri and Gwalior-Bhind which have good road connection. One of the reasons for the traders preferring the road transport is that goods are collected and delivered from door to door, and this proves economical on portearage charges, besides being faster and safer. Formerly the Gwalior Light Railway (narrow gauge) was intended primarily to facilitate transport of goods to areas not easily accessible by road, but with the development of roads in the district, the motor-trucks constitute a serious competition to the railways, especially over shorter distances. Long distance goods traffic by road is popular only on the major trunk roads and the national highways, especially during dry seasons. As regards passenger traffic the competition between rail and road is not serious, partly because there is adequate traffic to feed both modes of transport, and partly because the passenger road-traffic is mainly on the feeder-roads leading to rail-heads.

### WATER-WAYS, FERRIES, BRIDGES

The important rivers of the district are the Parbati, Vaisali, Sind, Sank, Asan, Sonrekha and Pahuj. None of these rivers is fit for navigation purposes. The river Sank has been impounded at Tigra village by a dam known as Tigra dam. The water-spread of this dam served as a seaplane base for the England-Australia Air Service. The seaplane service was discontinued during World War II and has not been resumed. A few launches of P. W. D. are available for rowing on the lake.

There are three ferries in the district—two across river Sind in Pichhore tahsil and one across river Pahuj in Bhandar tahsil. They operate only during the season when the waters of the rivers are too deep for wading or for temporary pontoon bridges.



As the road system in the district crosses and re-crosses the streams and rivers at several places, there are, in all, 704 bridges and culverts spanning them. Out of these, 271 are on the National Highways, 115 on State Highways, 107 on Major District Roads and 211 on Minor District Roads. These bridges are repaired and maintained by the Public Works Department.

### AIR TRANSPORT

Gwalior came on the air map of India in 1937. "During the year under report the Durbar were pleased to accept the proposal of the Government of India to use Madhavasagar Lake as a main stopping place for seaplanes on the Imperial Air Ways Scheme. Accordingly a sea plane base with its colony is under construction at Madhavasagar Lake. The colony is a self contained unit and when completed will cover an area of more than a quarter of square mile."<sup>1</sup> The seaplane service between England and Australia made stop-over here in the pre-war days at Tigra lake which is situated at about 11 miles in the south-west of Lashkar, mainly for refuelling. The lake had a water surface of  $7\frac{1}{2}$  square miles and was called 'Madhava Marinodrome'. Its construction was completed in the pre-war years (1937-40) at a cost of Rs. five lakhs. A Meteorological observatory and a Wireless Station were maintained by the Government of India at the seaplane base. During war time, the station was considerably expanded for providing amenities to the large staff which was stationed here to meet the heavy traffic. The seaplane service was discontinued towards the close of the war period.

Gwalior was also a halting station for the aeroplanes of Messrs Tata and Sons, Ltd., which used to land on Maharajpur air field six miles to the north-west of Lashkar. "In connection with the Trans-India Bombay-Delhi Air Service of Messers Tata Sons Ltd., the Durbar were pleased to order the construction of an Aerodrome at Gwalior. The work of constructing a landing ground was completed during the year under report."<sup>2</sup> This was inaugurated by the Sindhia on 8th November, 1937. The air-field was considerably improved at a cost of Rs. four lakhs by the construction of cement concrete all weather run way to meet the demands of Defence Department of Government of India, so that it could receive all types of air crafts. Wireless station, operational control posts, hangars, workshops and improved shelters, etc., were constructed at the total cost of Rs. 80 lakhs. The entire cost of construction was borne by the former Gwalior State. During World War II, the civilian air services were discontinued but Gwalior was again brought on the air map in the year 1950. when the Air Services of India Ltd., started its weekly passenger service from Delhi to Nagpur. This service was also discontinued in 1957 as the Airlines Company found it uneconomical. On the 2nd December 1959, Gwalior again became an air stop when the Indian Air Lines Corporation introduced its service on the Bombay-Indore-Bhopal-Gwalior-Delhi route. These services operate thrice a week in each direction.

1. Report on the Administration of the Gwalior State, 1937-38, p. 75.

2. *Ibid.*



## TRAVEL AND TOURIST FACILITIES

Ever since the time of Sher Shah Sur (1540-54) who opened the Agra-Burhanpur route and built *sarais* on the road side for the comfort of the travellers, the district has made some provision for the convenience of visitors and tourists.

Dak bungalows and rest houses are maintained by various departments, such as the Forest Department, Public Works Department, etc. The Dak bungalows and rest houses are open to the members of the public as well, on payment of prescribed rents. Some of the important ones among them and their location are given in the table below. In addition to these there is also a Circuit House No. 1 at Morar for accommodating important guests of Government, while the Circuit House No. 2 located at Gandhi Road is mainly for senior officers while they tour on duty. All these places in the district are maintained by the Public Works Department.

Serial No	Name of Dak Bungalow, Inspection bungalow or Rest House	Tahsil	Name of the Road	Situation
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1	Bhander ..	Bhander ..	Bhander—Chirgaon Road	(On mile No. 1)
2	Dabra ..	Pichhore ..	Gwalior—Jhansi Road	.. (On mile No. 28)
3	Ghatigaon ..	Gwalior ..	Agra—Bombay Road	.. (On mile No. 90)
4	Makoda ..	Pichhore ..	Gwalior—Jhansi Road	.. (On mile No. 17)
5	Malanpur ..	Gwalior ..	Gwalior—Etawah Road	.. (On mile No. 11)
6	Mohana ..	Pichhore ..	Agra-Bombay Road (Chambal Mohana Section).	(On mile No. 109)
7	Naiagaon ..	Gwalior ..	Agra—Bombay Road	.. (On mile No. 83)

Source .—Executive Engineer, P. W. D. (B & R), Gwalior.

**Hotels.**—It is only in the city of Gwalior that the hotel trade has grown to any extent. Being a tourist centre and the capital of the former Gwalior State and of Madhya Bharat, the city attracted visitors, and a Government-managed hotel was established at Gwalior, with a large and impressive building of its own. This hotel, known formerly as Grand Hotel, and later as Gwalior Hotel, has the modern hotel amenities of a good standard and is situated close to the Gwalior Railway Station. In addition, there are a few other hotels in different parts of the city, such as Laxmi Hotel, Lashkar Hotel, Kailash Lodge, Maharashtra Lodge, Queen's Hotel, Standard Hotel, etc.

## POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES

The first regular postal system in Northern India appears to have been introduced under Sher Shah Sur in 1540. He had post offices built at stages of 10 miles and a relay of good Turkish bred horses were placed at each stage to carry official correspondence, parcels etc. Under the Maratha rule these runners were utilized also for carrying private



letters on payment of fixed rate charged according to distance, though their main purpose was to keep up communication between the advancing Maratha armies and their followers and the seat of their Government.

This system continued during the period of the Maratha supremacy in this area, and was later substituted in the Central India States by a system known as 'Brahamani-Dak'. It was purely a private enterprise organized and conducted by certain Brahmins of Jaipur who had established their stations in most of the local states for the purpose. Some of the states paid them a regular contribution for conveying their official communications but the system was mainly supported by the trading community. A postal system, more or less regular, was thus maintained in these parts in the first half of the 19th century. In 1885 a Postal Convention was signed with the British which was further modified in 1888 under which the system of 'Brahmani-Dak' came to an end after having served well nigh for 100 years. By this postal agreement the following conditions were accepted :—

I. That there shall be a mutual interchange of all articles of correspondence including also parcels, money-orders and Indian Postal notes, as well as registered, insured and V. P. articles.

II. That the Gwalior State Post shall use Indian postage labels and Inland Post Cards overprinted with the words 'Gwalior State' and also with the Gwalior Arms. These will be supplied at cost price.

III. That these labels, etc., shall be recognized in payment of postage on any articles posted in any Imperial Post Office or letter-box within the limits of the Gwalior State.

IV. That the rates of postage, rules and regulations for the public in the Gwalior State Post Office shall be the same as those in force in the Imperial Post Office for the time being.

V. That Postal Service correspondence shall be carried free.

VI. That mails shall be mutually carried free over runner's mail cart and Railway lines.

VII. That each department shall keep its collections of unpaid postage, except such as may be collected by the Gwalior State Post Office on unpaid foreign correspondence handed to it for delivery.

VIII. Money-orders and Indian Postal notes shall be sold and paid by the Gwalior State, commission on sales being retained by Gwalior State.

The expansion of the Postal services was accelerated by the First World War, and their steady growth has continued since then. More post offices were opened both in rural and urban areas. In 1945 the Government of India initiated a scheme under which every village having a population of 2,000 and more should have a post office. This target was achieved by 1951. There were 27 post offices in 1954-55, 51 in 1955-56, 57 in 1956-57, 61 in 1957-58 and 63 in 1958-59. The corresponding numbers of combined post and telegraph



offices were seven in 1954-55, eight in 1955-56, and nine in 1956-57. The position on the 31st December 1959 was that there were 63 post offices in the district consisting of one General Post Office, 16 Sub-Post-Offices and 46 branch offices. There were also nine combined post and telegraph offices.

Both postal and banking transactions are carried on at the General Post Office, sub-post offices and few branch post offices. They also provide the following facilities for small savings:—

- (1) Sale of Gift coupons.
- (2) Sale of 12 years National Plan Savings Certificates.
- (3) Post Office Savings Bank Account.
- (4) Sale of Government securities.

For the benefit of the general public, the scheme of Postal Life Insurance has now been extended to the public as well, and insurance policies are accepted at all post offices in the district. Besides, the Post Office Savings Bank account can now be operated by cheque-system.

The first telegraph line in the district was started in 1853. The facilities of telegraph are provided in all important places of the district. The following are the combined Telegraph Offices in the district:—

- (1) Lashkar.
- (2) Bhandar.
- (3) Birlanagar.
- (4) Dabra.
- (5) Gwalior Residency.
- (6) Gwalior Railway Station.
- (7) Morar.
- (8) Pichhore.
- (9) Motimahar.



**Telephones.**—The permission of the Government of India was obtained in 1904 for the introduction of telephone communication in Gwalior city. In the beginning 14 telephone connections were established between Motimahar, Morar and Lashkar. In 1909 an exchange was established at Shivpuri to which the lines in Lashkar were connected. Later on connections were given to Chorpura and Panniar. In 1915 the service which had so far been reserved for the exclusive use of the State and its officials was made available to the public also. Till 1935 the entire State Telephone system consisted of magneto telephones. In that year the system at Lashkar, Gwalior and Morar was converted into the Central Battery Multiple System. The district does not have an automatic system of telephones. Now the main-exchange at Lashkar (Motimahar) is also controlling the sub-exchanges at Shivpuri, Bhind, Morena and Datia. Almost all the important places in the city as well as the district are now



linked by telephones. The total number of telephones installed on 31st December 1959 was 859. Out of this 758 are in Lashkar, 61 in Morar and 40 in Dabra. With the development of trunk telephone lines in the country the district was linked in 1935 through telephones with important towns like Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Delhi, etc. It is roughly calculated that the average number of trunk telephone calls booked from the district is 318 per day and the number of calls received daily is 303.

#### RADIO AND WIRELESS STATIONS

In the former Gwalior State a tentative attempt was made to establish an experimental Radio Station in Gwalior Fort, but this was given up due to technical difficulties and high cost. The district is at present served by all the northern region stations of All-India Radio as well as by the Bhopal-Indore Stations. At present a 10 KW medium-wave transmitting station is being erected at Gwalior which should be able to cover the entire region satisfactorily. According to the latest available figures upto 1960 there are about 3745 licensed receiving sets in the district.

#### EMPLOYEES' ORGANIZATIONS

There are four organizations of employees in the fields of transport, railways and post and telegraphs. Out of these two unions are formed by the employees of transport service; one union is formed by the employees of postal services and one union by the railway employees:—

- (i) The M. B. Roadways Workers' Union is formed by the workers of the M. B. Roadways.
- (ii) M. P. Roadways Union is formed by the employees of the private carriers operating in the district.
- (iii) Postal Employees' Union is formed by the employees of the Postal Services and this union is affiliated with the All India Postal Employees Union.
- (iv) Railway Workers' Union is formed by the employees of the Railways. It is also affiliated with the All India Railway Employees Union.



## CHAPTER VIII

### ECONOMIC TRENDS

The purpose of this chapter is to present the economic pattern in which the population of the district is distributed, to show what sections of the people are economically active, what are the broad divisions of avocations which they pursue and to trace the economic changes, if any, that are perceptible in the district as a result of the different development schemes.

According to the Census of 1951 the population of Gwalior district was 5,30,299 persons, of whom 2,49,552 persons, or 47.05 per cent, were dependent on agriculture and 2,80,747, or 52.95 per cent, were dependent on non-agricultural occupations. If you look at the distribution of this population in rural and urban areas, the picture is somewhat similar. There is a rural population of 2,82,341 persons in the district and an urban population of 2,47,958 persons. Thus the population of the district is fairly evenly divided between rural and urban, as well as between agricultural and non-agricultural classes.

The Agricultural classes are further distributed among the three categories of self-supporting, non-earning and earning dependent persons in the following manner :

#### Agricultural Classes:—

Self-supporting persons	66,040
Non-earning dependents	1,63,731
Earning dependents	19,781
Total ...	<u>2,49,552</u>



Thus only 85,821 persons out of a total of 2,49,552 are gainfully employed in agriculture, and the balance of 1,63,731 persons are non-earning dependents.

The Agricultural classes are again sub-divided in the following four categories :—

(i) Cultivators of land wholly or mainly owned, and their dependents.	1,62,283
(ii) Cultivators of land wholly or mainly un-owned and their dependents.	57,558
(iii) Cultivating labourers and their dependents.	25,342
(iv) Non-cultivating owners of land, agricultural rent receivers and their dependents.	4,369
Total	<u>1,49,552</u>



The persons dependent upon non-agricultural occupations are distributed among self-supporting non-earning dependent and earning dependent persons as follows:—

**Non-Agricultural classes:—**

Self-supporting persons	...	83,733
Non-earning departments	...	1,89,114
Earning departments	...	7,900
<b>Total</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>2,80,747</b>

Thus, in the non-agricultural sector out of the total number of 2,80,747 persons who were dependent on the different non-agricultural occupations, 91,633 were gainfully employed and the balance of 1,89,114 persons were non-earning dependents.

The persons dependent on the various non-agricultural means of livelihood are further sub-divided into the following four categories of occupations:—

(i) Production other than cultivation	...	81,626
(ii) Commerce	...	53,426
(iii) Transport	...	12,026
(iv) Other services and miscellaneous sources	...	1,33,669
<b>Total</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>2,80,747</b>

If we now examine the livelihood patterns of the population of the district, according to the rural-urban distribution, the total population in the rural area was 2,82,341 (1951 Census) which was made up of 2,39,495 persons dependent on agriculture and 42,846 persons dependent on non-agricultural occupations. Their distribution according to the three classes of self-supporting, non-earning dependent, and earning dependent persons, was as follows:—

**Rural Population (2,82,341)**

	Agricultural	Non-agricultural
Self-supporting persons .. ..	63,472	12,648
Non-earning dependents .. ..	1,56,658	28,214
Earning dependents .. ..	19,365	1,984
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>2,39,495</b>	<b>42,846</b>

The total population in the urban area of the district was 2,47,958 persons (1951 Census) which consisted of 2,37,901 persons who were dependent on various non-agricultural occupations and 10,057 persons who were dependent on agri-



culture. The break-up of these figures under the categories of self-supporting, non-earning dependent and earning dependent persons was as follows :—

**Urban Population (2,47,958)**

				Agricultural	Non-agricultural
Self-supporting persons	..	..	..	2,568	71,085
Non-earning dependents	..	..	..	7,073	1,60,900
Earning dependents	..	..	..	416	5,916
Total	..	..	..	10,057	2,37,901

Thus the picture that these figures present of the livelihood pattern of the district is that, out of a total population of 5,30,299 persons in the district the economically active population numbered 1,77,454 persons, and the balance of 3,52,845 persons were classified as non-earning dependents. Thus roughly one earning person supports two non-earning dependents in the district.

**General Level of Prices.**—The price level of essential commodities is a fair indication of the economic condition of the district. Gwalior district is in the Wheat Zone, and the two main foodgrains are wheat and *jowar*, with rice as the next important cereal. During the last fifty years the over-all trend of prices of foodgrains has been one of progressive increase. As against the price-level in 1873 when rice sold at Rs. 4.3 as. per maund, wheat at Rs. 2.14 as., gram at Rs. 2.7 as. and *arhardal* at Rs. 2.3 as., the retail prices of these commodities from 1901 to 1920 were as follows.

(In Rs. per maund)

Year	Rice	Wheat	Gram	Arhardal	Jowar	Bajra
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1901 .. ..	5.739	3.899	2.613	3.607	2.212	2.245
1905 .. ..	4.994	3.683	2.538	3.687	2.413	2.649
1909 .. ..	6.319	4.751	2.996	4.02	3.404	3.333
1915 .. ..	8.889	5.215	3.252	5.168	..	..
1919 .. ..	8.247	6.614	5.857	4.07	4.938	5.376
1920 .. ..	8.909	6.579	4.723	7.576	4.296	4.306

*Source.*—Prices and Wages in India, Government Press, Calcutta, 1922

It is clear that while the prevailing trend was upward, the prices showed a marked spurt following the First World War, and by 1919 the prices were more than double what they had been in 1873. This inflationary trend reached its peak in 1919, after which the recession had begun to set in by 1921. Thereafter the price level was practically stable till about 1929 when the onset of the depression was perceptible. The retail price foodgrain index which stood



at 375 in 1921 and at 217 in 1930 fell to 143 in 1931 and to 181 in 1939. The table given below shows the fluctuations in the prices that were noticeable during the period leading to the high prices that ruled during the Second World War. After a low ebb in prices which prevailed up to about 1939, the prices picked up rapidly partly due to scarcity conditions caused by the War and the consequent control measures :—

(In Rs. per maund)						
Date and year	Rice	Wheat	Jowar	Bajra	Gram	Tur
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
29-7-1922 .. .. .	8-0-0 to 13-0-0	6-1-0 to 6-11-0	3-8-0	4-2-0	4-2-0	3-12-0
30-6-1929 .. .. .	6-10-0 to 12-0-0	4-10-0 to 5-14-0	3-14-0	5-0-0	4-1-0	4-10-6
30-6-1933 .. .. .	3-8-0 to 10-0-0	3-0-0 to 3-3-0	1-12-0 to 2-0-0	2-0-0	2-5-0	2-6-0
31-7-1939 .. .. .	4-0-0 to 9-0-0	2-14-0 to 3-4-0	2-10-0	2-8-0	3-0-0	2-12-0
30-6-1945 .. .. .	Not available	9-8-0	6-0-0	6-0-0	8-0-0	8-0-0

Source.—Gwalior State Gazettes.

At first the rise in prices that became apparent in the early part of the war, was considered to be not altogether a bad thing, especially since the cultivators had suffered badly during the depression of 1933-34 and the following years. But by 1941 there was no room for complacency in the face of the steep rise in the prices of foodgrains. Various measures for rationing and price control were introduced, together with their corollary of procurement. The spiral of rising prices reached its peak in 1951, due partly to serious shortages. Thereafter, however, there appeared a clear downward trend, which was noticeable from about 1952. The table below shows how from 1952 onwards the prices of some of the essential foodgrains on the whole declined. Wheat fell from Rs. 17.16 a maund to Rs. 12.62 a maund, while jowar dropped from Rs. 11.51 to Rs. 6.77.

#### Average Wholesale Prices Recorded at Gwalior City (1952-55)

					(In Rs. per maund)			
					1952	1953	1954	1955
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
1. Wheat .. .. .	17.16	16.66	13.91	12.62				
2. Jowar .. .. .	11.51	10.94	7.88	6.77				
3. Bajra .. .. .	9.91	11.15	9.25	8.23				
4. Maize .. .. .	10.19	10.38	7.87	6.63				
5. Gram .. .. .	15.11	15.54	10.20	7.59				

Source.—Statistical Abstract of Madhya Pradesh, 1958-59, p. 256.



The fall of the whole-sale price of wheat was about 25 per cent, while *jowar* registered a 40 per cent decrease, maize a fall of 33 per cent and gram about 30 per cent, during the period from 1952 to 1955. A similar decrease was noticeable in the retail prices also of these commodities.

The stabilisation of the prices of essential foodgrains continued during the period of the Second Five-Year Plan. In fact, the progress of the Second Plan was reflected in the steady decrease in the prices of most of the foodgrains. However, in the years 1958 and 1959, especially in the latter, there was a perceptible rise in the prices, which was soon arrested and the prices subsequently fell in the following year. The table below gives the position in respect of the whole-sale prices in Lashkar market during the month of the March in each of the years from 1956 to 1960 :—

**Monthly Average Whole-sale Prices in Lashkar Market in the Month of March**

(In Rs. per maund)

Commodities	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1. Wheat .. .. .	15.75	15.75	15.25	19.50	16.00
2. Rice .. .. .	25.50	26.00	25.00	20.00	24.50
3. Gram .. .. .	11.75	10.50	10.62	16.87	11.75
4. Maize .. .. .	9.75	11.25	10.50	12.25	11.62
5. <i>Jowar</i> .. .. .	11.25	11.25	9.50	13.75	11.75
6. <i>Bajra</i> .. .. .	11.00	11.25	11.50	14.75	13.62

*Source.*—Monthly Review of Economic Situation, Directorate of Economics and Statistics and Statistical Abstract of M. P., 1956-57.

**Rural Wages.**—The wage-level is an indication of the economic efficiency of an area and of the cost of living. The table below shows the trend of monthly wages in Gwalior district for skilled and unskilled labour during the period from 1873 to 1920. The wages show a steep upward trend from about 1915, which is parallel to the rise in the general price level during the same period.

**Average Monthly Wages of Skilled and Unskilled Labour in Gwalior**

(in Rs.)

Year	Able-bodied Agricultural labour	Sycc or House Keeper	Common Mason, Carpenter or Blacksmith
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1873 .. .. .	4	5 ..	12
1909 .. .. .	5.62	4 to 5	11.25 to 13.12
1915 .. .. .	7.5	5 to 6	11 to 15



(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1918 .. .. .	11.25 to 15	5.62 to 7.5	15 to 22.5
1919 .. .. .	15 to 18	7 to 9	20 to 30
1920 .. .. .	15 to 18.75	8 to 10	22.5 to 30

Source.—Prices and Wages in India, Govt. Press, Calcutta, 1922.

The data for an understanding of the wages structure in the area are to be found partly in the Report of the Agricultural Labour Enquiry conducted by the Ministry of Labour, Government of India, in 1951.

For the purpose of their enquiry this area (covering the territories of the former Madhya Bharat) was divided into four Zones. Out of these, Zone I consisted of the districts of Gwalior-Gird, Morena, Blind and Shivpuri. The conclusion of this enquiry in respect of this Zone could therefore be taken to represent roughly the position that obtained in Gwalior district. According to this Report, "On an average a family consisted of 4.8 persons, out of whom 2.4 were earners. There were only 2.2 wages earners (1.1 men, 1.0 women and 0.1 children) on an average, the remaining 0.2 earners being engaged in occupations other than wage labour."<sup>1</sup>

The average daily wages paid in Zone I were estimated at Rs. 1-8-6 (Rs. 1.53) for a man, and 9 as. 9 ps., (61 nP.) for a woman. The following table gives the average daily wages paid to casual workers :—

Average Daily Wages for Men and Women Casual Workers.

Operation	Men	Women
(1)	(2)	(3)
	Rs. as. p.	Rs. as. p.
Preparatory .. .. .	1 6 3	0 10 11
Ploughing .. .. .	1 8 6	0 9 9
Sowing .. .. .	1 12 9	0 15 3
Transplanting .. .. .	0 15 9	0 12 4
Weeding .. .. .	0 14 6	0 10 0
Irrigating .. .. .	1 1 2	0 14 9
Harvesting .. .. .	1 12 9	1 3 4
Threshing .. .. .	1 7 10	0 15 5
All operations .. .. .	1 9 0	0 15 0
Non-agriculture Labour .. .. .	1 0 0	0 8 0



The wages were highest for the sowing and harvesting operations partly because of the high demand for labour during these seasons. The daily average wage for men for these operations was Rs. 1-12-9 (Rs. 1.80). In the year 1957 the wage rates for reapers and harvesters were Rs. 2 for male and female labour, and for ploughing operations the daily wage rate was also Rs. 2 for male labour. In the year 1958, the category of workers classified as 'Other Agricultural Labour' received an average daily wage of Rs. 2 and Rs. 1.50 for men and women, respectively. In the following year, 1959, both men and women were paid Rs. 1.50 per day, while in the year 1960, the wage rate for men remained at Rs. 1.50, but that for women labour fell to Rs. 1.25 as against the previous year's Rs. 1.50.

The agricultural labour in the olden days used to be paid in kind. Even now in several villages, the labour is paid partly in kind. Labour was generally engaged for particular season and got paid for the season, either on a daily or a weekly basis. It has been reckoned that the agricultural operations kept the male workers busy on an average for 173 days, and the female workers for 108 days.

**Urban Wages.**—Some idea of wage trends prevailing in the urban area can be had from the rates of minimum wages fixed by the Government in the Scheduled Industries under the Minimum Wages Act. The minimum wages for skilled or unskilled labour in Gwalior district varies in different occupations. In the Rice, Flour, Dal and Oil Mills the skilled labour was paid Rs. 3.50 a day in 1959. The wages of semi-skilled labour was Rs. 2.75 a day. The same rate was paid to labour employed in the Construction or Maintenance of Roads, Buildings and Stone-breaking. In the Bidi industry the labour employed in bidi rolling was paid on a piece work basis. The others were paid on a monthly rate, ranging from Rs. 50 a month for the Bhattiwala to Rs. 75 a month for the Bidi sorter and checker, according to the minimum wages fixed in 1959. The table below shows some of the scheduled employments in which the wages were fixed in 1959, compared with the wages that obtained in 1956:—

**Minimum Wages in Some Scheduled Employments in Gwalior, Gird District, 1956-1959.**

Name of Industry	Minimum rate of wages as on 1-11-1956	Minimum rate of wages as on 1-11-1959
(1)	(2)	(3)
1. Rice, Dal & Flour Mills	Skilled—Rs. 60 p.m. ..	Rs. 3.50 per day
	Semi-skilled—Rs. 40 p.m. ..	Rs. 2.75 per day
	Unskilled— Rs. 30 p.m. ..	Rs. 1.75 per day (Male) Rs. 1.50 per day (Female)
2. Bidi Making .. ..	Bidi Maker—Rs. 1.12 per 1000 bides.	Rs. 1.62 per 1000 bides
	Bundle Wrapper—Rs. 45 or Rs. 3.25 per lakh.	Rs. 65 p. m.
	Bhattiwala—Rs. 35 p.m. ..	Rs. 50 p. m.



(1)	(2)	(3)
3. Oil Mills .. ..	Skilled—Rs. 50 p.m.	Rs. 3.50 per day
	Semi-skilled—Rs. 40 p.m.	Rs. 2.75 per day
	Unskilled—Rs. 30 p.m.	Rs. 1.75 per day (Male) Rs. 1.50 per day (Female)
4. Local Authority ..	Clerk—Rs. 45 p.m.	Rs. 75 p.m.
	Peon, Chowkidar, Mali, Lightman, Watchman—Rs. 22 p.m.	Rs. 1.75 per day for unskilled male
5. Road Construction	Semi-skilled (Male)—Rs. 2.50 per day, Female—Rs. 2.50 per day	Rs. 2.75 per day (Male) N.A.
	Unskilled (Male)—Rs. 1.50 per day.	Rs. 1.75 per day
	Female—Rs. 1.25 per day	Rs. 1.50 per day
6. Building Operations..	Skilled (Male)—Rs. 3.50 per day	Rs. 3.50 per day
	Semi-skilled (Male)—Rs. 2.25 per day	Rs. 2.75 per day
	Unskilled (Male)—Rs. 1.25 per day	Rs. 1.75 per day
	Female—Rs. 1.12 per day	Rs. 1.50 per day
7. Road Transport ..	Driver—Rs. 75 p.m.	Rs. 90 p.m.
	Conductor—Rs. 65 p.m.	Rs. 80 p.m.
	Cleaner—Rs. 45 p.m.	Rs. 60 p.m.

From the above table it can be seen that even the minimum wage rates fixed for unskilled industrial workers in urban areas were higher than the comparable category of 'Other Agricultural Labour' in rural areas. While in the industries all unskilled male labour got Rs. 1.75 per day as the minimum wage in the year 1959, the daily wages of 'Other Agricultural Labour' in rural areas were Rs. 1.50 in the same year. This indicates that wages in urban areas are generally higher than those in rural areas.

**Standard of Living.**—Various factors go to make up the standard of living in the district. It has already been pointed out that the economy of Gwalior district is fairly balanced between agricultural and non-agricultural occupations. In respect of agriculture, the total net cropped area per capita rose from .40 acres in 1901 to .83 in 1957-58. Similarly, the total cultivated area increased from .43 to .86 per capita during the same period. The current fallows and waste land decreased during the period from .15 to .003 per capita. Taking the total out-turn from land in Gwalior district, the position in 1952-53 was that 11,643 tons of rice was produced in the district and 27,558 tons of wheat. Agricultural production increased in the subsequent years and stood in 1955 at 12,511 tons of rice, 31,558 tons of wheat and 25,521 tons of jowar.

The district has a total number of 64,756 agricultural holdings, but the majority of them, numbering as many as 32,597 holdings are small holdings each of which is of 5 acres or less in size. Holdings ranging from above five acres to 50 acres each numbered 31,392, which accounted for 48.5 per cent of



the total number of holdings. Holdings of above 50 acres each were only 767 in the district, which form 1.2 per cent of the total number of holdings. The table below illustrates the position according to the 1951 Census :—

**Distribution and Size of Land Holdings**

Size of Holdings	No. of Holdings	Percentage to total No. of holdings	Area covered (in acres)	As per centage to total area covered by all holdings	Average size of holdings in the group (in acre)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
(I) Very small holdings up to 1 acre.	7,457	11.5	3,921	0.7	
1 to 2.5 acres	11,041	17.0	18,748	3.4	
2.6 to 5 acres	14,099	21.8	51,051	9.1	
Total (I)	32,597	50.3	73,720	13.2	2.3
(II) Medium size holdings—					
5.1 to 10.0 acres	15,666	24.2	1,13,385	20.3	
10.1 to 25.0 acres	12,777	19.7	1,92,215	34.3	
25.1 to 50.0 acres	2,949	4.6	97,730	17.5	
Total (II)	31,392	48.5	4,03,330	72.1	12.8
(III) Very large holdings—					
Above 50 acres	767	1.2	82,415	14.7	107.5
Total	60,756	100.0	5,59,465	100.0	8.6

Source —Census of Land Holding, 1953-54.

N. B.—Net area sown during 1953-54 was 4,78,465 acres, 85 per cent of total area under holding.

The pattern of consumption depends largely upon the economic strata to which a family belongs. But it may be generalised that the expenditure on food and clothing take up the bulk of the family budget. It is estimated on an all-India basis that expenditure on food constitutes 60 per cent of the total expenditure in villages, 55 per cent in the towns and 46 per cent in the cities.

Appendix XVI gives the family budget pattern of the district according to the different income groups. It will be seen that the average monthly expenditure of the family in the income group of Rs. 30 to Rs. 40 per month was Rs. 55-1-1 as against average monthly income of Rs. 35-3-2. For the income group of Rs. 100 to 110 a month, the monthly expenditure was Rs. 98-8-8 as against an average monthly income of Rs. 103-4-10. In the income group of Rs. 150 and above, the average monthly expenditure was Rs. 169-10-1 against an average income of Rs. 180-15-10. The pattern of expenditure was



60.88 per cent on food, 6.83 per cent on fuel and lighting, 3.97 per cent on house rent, 2.02 per cent on household requisites, 13.02 per cent on clothing and allied articles and 13.28 per cent on miscellaneous expenditure. The proportionate expenditure on food varied inversely, and that on clothing and miscellaneous expenditure increased directly with the rise of the income level.

The items of cereal consumed by a majority of the lower income group in Gwalior district included *jowar*, *bajra*, maize, *masur* and *arhardal*. Wheat, rice and vegetables were only occasionally consumed during festivals or certain ceremonies. The items of food of the middle classes normally includes wheat, rice, vegetables and also milk, *ghee* and butter. In the higher income groups the expenditure on other items—house-rent, miscellaneous items, clothing, etc.—tends to increase, with a corresponding decrease in the proportionate expenditure on food.

The cost of living of working classes in Gwalior, taking the base as 1951-100, rose to 113 in 1959. The rise was primarily in the items of food, fuel and lighting. The margin of the rise was steeper than it appears, because the index had fallen to 83 in 1955 before it rose to the level of 113 in 1959. The variation is illustrated in the following table:—

Consumer Price Index Number, 1951-100

Year	General	Food	Fuel lighting	Dwelling	Clothing, Bedding, Footwear	Miscella- neous
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1951 ..	100	100	100	100	100	100
1952 ..	99	98	96	100	108	98
1953 ..	95	98	85	100	89	93
1954 ..	87	88	86	100	89	93
1955 ..	83	79	91	100	90	86
1956 ..	98	100	111	100	96	86
1957 ..	98	99	117	100	92	91
1958 ..	104	108	125	100	92	92
1959 ..	113	119	135	100	102	95

Source.—Directorate of Economics & Statistics, Madhya Pradesh.

**General Level of Employment.**—According to the Agricultural Labour Enquiry Committee which reported on the condition of employment in the agricultural section in Zone I of the former Madhya Bharat, agricultural labour had only a limited scope for employment in Gwalior district. It was estimated that about 83 per cent of the agricultural labour families were casual workers and 17 per cent were attached workers. The agricultural operations kept the male worker busy, on an average, for 173 days in a year and the female worker for 108 days.



Out of the total population of the district approximately one-third could be considered the working population, which is more or less evenly divided between agricultural and non-agricultural occupations. It has been pointed out that according to the 1951 Census, out of a population of 2,49,552 which was dependent on agriculture, there were 85,821 persons who were gainfully employed and the remaining 1,63,731 were non-earning dependents. The non-agricultural sector had a population of 2,80,747 persons, of whom about 91,663 persons were gainfully employed. These persons consisted of both employees and independent workers. According to the Employment Market report of the Directorate of National Employment Service, the number of persons employed in the private sector in Gwalior district, as on the 31st December 1960 was 20,027, and in the public sector it was 20,055 persons. Their occupational distribution is shown in the table below:—

**Occupational Distribution of 20,027 Persons Employed in the Private Sector  
in Gwalior District on 31-12-1960.**

Textiles, including, cotton, silk and miscellaneous .. .. .	12,345
Food stuffs and Beverages .. .. .	2,250
Machinery and Electrical Equipment .. .. .	2,350
Basic metals and their products .. .. .	260
Educational and Scientific Services .. .. .	1,084
Trade and Commerce (Miscellaneous) .. .. .	313
Other occupations .. .. .	1,425
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>20,027</b>

**Occupational Distribution of 20,055 Persons employed in the Public Sector in  
Gwalior District on 31-12-1960.**

Public services in administration departments of State Govt. Establishments .. .. .	6,823
Public services in Central Government Establishments .. .. .	1,753
Educational Services (Technical) .. .. .	904
Educational Services (non-Technical) .. .. .	2,625
Medical and Public Health Services .. .. .	1,252
Transport and Communications .. .. .	1,195
Manufacturing undertakings .. .. .	2,509
Construction and buildings .. .. .	1,515
Other services .. .. .	1,469
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,055</b>

*Source*—Employment Market Report for period ending 31st December 1960, published by the Directorate of National Employment Services, Madhya Pradesh.

**Employment Exchanges.**—The Employment Exchange at Gwalior was established on 1st October 1945 and the Divisional Labour Officer, Gwalior was appointed as *ex-officio* Manager of this Exchange. From September 1952, a full-fledged Employment Exchange under an Employment Officer was estab-



lished by the Director-General of Resettlement and Employment, Government of India, which was later taken over by the State Government in 1956. In the following table the yearly registrations, placings and the total number on Live Register is given:—

Registrations, Placings and Numr on the Live Register

Year	Registrations	Placings	No. on Live Register
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1952 .. .. .	1,194	143	1,672
1953 .. .. .	4,203	589	1,574
1954 .. .. .	4,293	470	1,880
1955 .. .. .	6,382	594	2,123
1956 .. .. .	5,528	538	1,599
1957 .. .. .	5,066	441	1,943
1958 .. .. .	6,331	355	2,469
1959 .. .. .	6,127	600	2,657

From the above table, it would appear that the number on the Live Register increased faster than what the placings could cope with. The occupational composition with regard to those who were on the Live Register at the end of September, 1959 is given in the table below :—

Description of Occupation	Number on Live Register at the end of September, 1959
(1)	(2)
Professional, Technical & related workers .. .. .	321
Administrative, Executive & Managerial workers .. .. .	29
Clerical and related workers .. .. .	1,061
Craftsmen .. .. .	147
Other skilled workers .. .. .	130
Unskilled (Office workers) .. .. .	649
Unskilled (Other workers) .. .. .	320
Total .. .. .	2,657

It would thus appear that the largest number registered was for clerical posts. The uneducated employment seekers are mostly unskilled. Both these factors would indicate a shortage of technical and skilled workers in the district.



**The Plan and Community Development.**—One of the important factors that have given a purpose and direction to the economic growth of the district, as indeed, of the whole country, is the National Five Year Plan. With the implementation of the First Five Year Plan 1951-1956, followed by the Second Five Year Plan, the activities of the development departments of the Government in Gwalior district were geared to the achievement of certain set targets. In the sphere of agriculture, cooperation, education, rural development, irrigation, cottage industries, etc., the progress during the Plan was conspicuous. For instance, the production of the principal crops rose markedly during the period; in 1955 the production of rice in Gwalior district increased to 12511 tons, wheat rose to 31,558 tons, *jowar* 25,521 tons, gram 13,953 tons and pulses 18,354 tons.

In order to bring about an all-round development under the Plan in the rural areas the Community Development Scheme and the National Extension Scheme were introduced in selected compact blocks of villages in each district, where a coordinated programme of better farming, education, sanitation, health, road-making, cooperation, etc., was carried out. In Gwalior district three Community Development Blocks were established on the 2nd October 1952 at Dabra, Bhitarwar and Morar. A fourth block was opened at Bhandar on the 1st October 1960. The Dabra Block comprises 167 villages covering an area of 368 square miles with a population of 62,381. The Block at Bhitarwar consists of 172 villages over an area of 342 square miles and having a population of 63,710 persons. The Morar Community Development Block has 188 villages covering 400 square miles and having 73,709 population. The Block at Bhandar which is a pre-extension Block comprises 158 villages with an area of 252.66 square miles with a population of 51,990.

According to the revised pattern of organising the Community Development Blocks, all development blocks which were N.E.S. blocks on the 31st March 1958 were converted into stage I Blocks, while those which were in an intensive phase on the 31st March 1958, were converted into Stage II Blocks. Under this pattern the Blocks at Dabra, Bhitarwar and Morar came under Stage II Blocks. The Bhandar Block which was established on the 1st October 1960 was in the pre-extension stage.

The cumulative expenditure upto 31st March 1958 on the three blocks of Dabra, Bhitarwar and Morar was Rs. 55.14 lakhs, and the expenditure for the year 1958-59 on all the three blocks was Rs. 3.77 lakhs, made up of 1.32 lakhs in Dabra block, 1.51 in Bhitarwar block and .94 lakh in Morar block. The expenditure on these three blocks up to the 31st December 1960 is shown in the table below :

**Expenditure on Community Development Blocks in Gwalior District, 1958-1960.**

Blocks	1-4-1958 to 31-3-1959		1-4-1959 to 31-3-1960		1-4-1960 to 31-12-1960	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)		
		Rs. in Lakhs	Rs. in Lakhs		Rs. in thousand	
Morar .. ..	..	0.94	1.10		59,734	
Dabra .. ..	..	1.32	1.15		89,959	
Bhitarwar .. ..	..	1.51	1.18		65,678	



As a result of these schemes the physical targets achieved in these Development Blocks included the distribution of 40,414 maunds of improved seeds, of 1,09,630 maunds of chemical fertilisers, the addition of some 10,896 acres of land under irrigation and the opening of 145 new cooperative societies. Through the programme of social education 4,129 adults were made literate, while under the village leaders' training scheme 1,667 villagers were trained.

It might be useful to assess the over-all results of the Plan Schemes in the district in the different spheres of nation-building activities. The increase in the agricultural production, referred to earlier, is brought out in the table below, which shows the increase in the total output as well as in the average yield per acre:—

Crops	1950-51		1958-59	
	Total outturn (in ,000 tons)	Yield per acre in lbs.	Total outturn (in ,000 tons)	Yield per acre in lbs.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Rice .. .. .	5.6	390	25.4	1,244
Wheat .. .. .	41.4	856	69.0	914
Jowar .. .. .	12.3	354	19.5	621
Gram .. .. .	25.5	477	49.3	1,002
Tur .. .. .	..	..	3.1	676

Source.—(1) Season and Crop Report of Madhya Bharat for the Agricultural Years, 1950-51 and 1951-52.

(2) Season and Crop Report of Madhya Pradesh for the year ending 31st May 1959.

The number of cooperative societies increased from 563 to 684 during the First Plan period. Under the educational extension programme free primary education for boys and girls in the age-group 6 to 11 was progressively introduced. During the First Plan 202 primary schools were established in the district with a total strength of 9,146 students.

In regard to Health Schemes a comprehensive programme for the extension of medical facilities was undertaken in the First Plan period. This included the establishment of mobile dispensaries, the carrying-out of anti-malaria campaign in 628 villages, opening of Allopathic and Ayurvedic dispensaries and the establishment of Maternity and Child Welfare Centres as well as Primary Health Centres. In addition to these, an Ayurvedic College was established at Gwalior at a cost of Rs. 6.30 lakhs. The achievements of the Plan Schemes in the different spheres of development departments are given in the relevant chapters of this Gazetteer. All that need be pointed out here is that in spite of shortcomings in the execution of the Plan Schemes, despite unavoidable lapses and miscalculations in translating the Plan into reality, the total impact of the last two Five Year Plans on the people of the district and on their economy has been an invigorating one. The Plans have raised the production capacity of the people. They have provided new facilities for development, and opened more avenues of employment. Though an exact evaluation has not yet been



made, it is clear that the Plans have raised the earning capacity of people. More than all these changes, it is noteworthy that the factor of public participation in the development works has grown in the last 10 years. To that extent the Plans may be said to have created the will as well as the means for economic improvement among the people.

### MISCELLANEOUS OCCUPATIONS

An account of the economic pattern of the district will be incomplete if it does not include, a reference to the several urban and rural occupations which though numerically smaller than the major avocations of the people yet constitute a significant part of the life of the district. These occupations may be briefly grouped under three heads:—

- (i) Public Services—connected with administration, local bodies, education, transport, etc.
- (ii) Private Services—domestic service, barbers, *dhobies*, etc.
- (iii) Traders and shop-keepers.

**Employees in Government Services and Local Bodies:—**A perusal of the 1951 Census Report shows that the total number of persons in the State Government service was 6,353, of which 5,927 were employed in urban area and 426 in rural area of Gwalior district. The persons in the employment of Union Government were 4,207, of whom 4,130 were in urban area and 77 in rural area. The number of women employees under the State and Union Government Services were 95 and 45 respectively. The total number of persons working in municipalities and local boards was 567 of whom 552 were in urban area and 15 in rural area. The women employees in Local Government Service were 43. The 1951 Census gave a total of 915 persons engaged in Health and Medical Services in the district, of whom 817 persons were employed in urban area and 98 in rural area of the district. Out of the 915 persons in this occupation, 659 were men and 256 women; 206 were unregistered Vaidyas and Hakims, 11 Dentists, 134 Midwives, 5 Vaccinators, 113 Compounders, and 55 Nurses. The number of Allopathic and Ayurvedic private medical practitioners in the district was 201 and 522 respectively.

**Education:—**The Census of 1951 enumerated 2,229 persons as being directly connected with the educational services. These include professors, lecturers and teachers, and also managers, clerks and the non-teaching staff employed in educational institutions. Their distribution is shown in the table below :—

	Persons	Male	Female
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Professors, Lecturers and Research workers employed in Colleges and Research institutions.	227	208	19
All other Professors, Lecturers and Teachers .. ..	1,387	1,197	250
Managers, Clerks and servants of educational and Research institutions including Libraries and Museums	615	556	59

Source.—Gwalior District Census Hand-book, 1951.



**Transport, Storage and Communications.**—According to 1951 Census, transport by road provided livelihood to 2,056 persons in the district. This figure included the owners, managers and employees connected with mechanically driven and other vehicles like *palki* etc. There were some 457 bullockcart owners and drivers; 11 taxi owners and drivers; 684 *ekka* owners and drivers, and 132 truck owners and drivers. Besides these about 81 persons were engaged in the loading of asses and camels. There were 82 private motor drivers. *Palledari* and *hamali* in the transport business provided employment to about 282 persons, while service in Government-owned Roadways services employed 326 persons.

There were 1,274 persons working in railway transport including 165 railway porters, gangmen, coolies, etc., and 1,109 other employees. Communication services like Post & Telegraph, Telephone and Wireless employed 375 persons. Besides these, there were 30 persons employed at the Aerodrome. Thus in 1951 the total number of persons engaged in transport, storage and communications was 3,717 of whom 46 were women.

It is estimated that in 1958-59 there were 665 licensed tongas and 903 tonga drivers in the district. There were 3,262 autodrivers. The number of cars in the district was 1,209. There were 44 lorries, 543 buses, 1,169 trucks, 326 motor cycles and 714 tractors.

**Domestic services.**—All types of domestic services which are paid for, provided occupation for 3,386 persons of whom 559 were women. The number of domestic servants, properly so called, was 2,532, of whom 365 were women. Besides, there were 262 private motor drivers and cleaners, 350 cooks, 169 gardeners and 73 water-men. The total number of barbers, hair dressers, wigmakers, etc., in the district was 923 of whom 32 were women. Laundries and laundry services provided employment to 739 males and 181 females. Apart from *dhobies* who work as independent units, there were also laundries established in the city which are mechanically operated. The dry cleaners and laundries with mechanised vacuum washing machine are usually proprietary concerns which employ workmen on wages.

**Legal Profession.**—There were 230 persons engaged in the legal profession in 1951. There were 170 lawyers and two of whom were women. The number of petition writers was 60 inclusive of seven females.

**Construction and Utility Services.**—The construction works and certain maintenance services gave employment to 6,865 persons, of whom nearly 5,784 persons were in Gwalior city. There were 4,682 persons engaged in the construction and maintenance of buildings; 933 on maintenance of roads, bridges and other transport works; 166 in irrigation and other agricultural works; 223 in electric power and gas supply; 148 in domestic and industrial water supply and 713 in sanitary works and services.

There were 651 masons and brick layers; 1,520 stone cutters and dressers; 89 decorators and painters; 2,422 persons in miscellaneous activities of construc-



tion and maintenance of buildings other than buildings made of bamboo or similar materials.

In 1951 there were 4,494 persons described as being engaged in unclassified retail trade in the district. Out of these, 4,302 were men and 192 women and a total of nearly 3,438 of them were working in Gwalior city. The unclassified retail traders comprised the hawkers and street vendors, dealers in drugs and other chemical stores, publishers, booksellers and stationers, and general stores, shop-keepers and persons employed on wages in such shops.

According to the retail trade classification the trade in food stuffs (including beverages and narcotics) engaged 5,743 persons. The retail trade in fuel including petroleum and kerosene oil distributors provided occupation for 478 persons of whom 408 were retail dealers (including hawkers and street vendors) in firewood, charcoal, coal, cow dung and all fuel except petroleum. There were 2,241 retailers in textile and other goods.

Whole-sale traders in food stuffs were 150; while money-lending, banking and other financial business was carried on by 835 persons. It is estimated that there were 844 persons in the district who earned their livelihood by being attached to religious, charitable or private welfare institutions, of whom 791 were men and 53 women. This number includes 465 priests, about 362 persons employed in religious places, burial and burning grounds etc., and 17 managers of institutions rendering charitable and welfare service.

सत्यमेव जयते



## CHAPTER IX

### GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

The origin of the district as a unit of administration in the former Gwalior State dates back to the year 1853 when the State was divided into territorial units called *Prants* (divisions), *Zilas* (districts) and Parganas (tahsils). A *Suba*, corresponding to a Collector or Deputy Commissioner in the provinces under British rule at the time, was appointed at the head of each district. He was its chief revenue and administrative officer and was at the same time, the *Zila Magistrate*. The functions of the *Suba* covered a wide range of subjects. As revenue and administrative officer, he was responsible for the collection of revenue, settlement of disputes regarding land, and other matters that might arise between a landlord and a tenant, and for submission of all reports and returns required by the Government. As *Zila Magistrate*, he was entrusted with the charge of police and judicial matters and generally presided over a regular court of civil or criminal jurisdiction. Besides, many other subjects such as forests, customs, sanitation, etc., were also under his charge. In addition he was also the President of the Municipality. In all his work, the *Suba* was subject to control and inspection of the *Sar Suba* (Commissioner), the head of the *Prant*. This position changed in 1903-04 when the *Sar Suba* of Gwalior was abolished and the *Suba* was placed directly under the Board of Revenue. The other two important officials in the district were the magistrate of the first class, who was also the civil judge or *Sadar Amin*, exercising the powers of a First Class Munsiff and the Police Superintendent, who as Chief Police Officer, acted under the *Suba's* direction.

At the pargana level, the *Suba* was assisted by a Tahsildar who, for a long time, was known by the old name of *Kamavisdar* (literally a stuff-keeper). He was the back-bone of the revenue system; he was to the pargana what the *Suba* was to the district (*zila*), being the principal administrative and revenue officer of the charge. He also exercised judicial powers, being a magistrate of the second class and a civil judge or munsiff of the second grade. He was assisted by a *Naib-Kamavisdar*, who also was a third class magistrate and a third grade munsiff.

At the village level, the revenue work was conducted by a patwari, who formed the base or foundation of the revenue administration. He was the keeper of land records and assisted the tahsil staff in the collection of revenue. It may be of interest to note that the patwaris were remunerated mostly by grants of land until about 1890, when all lands held by them were taken back and in lieu thereof a cess on land revenue was levied, from which they were paid in cash, first quarterly and later monthly.

The functions of the *Suba* underwent many changes from time to time. It has already been mentioned that besides other duties, the revenue, judicial and police functions were combined in him. But experience soon revealed that the



multiplicity of duties entrusted to him led to unsatisfactory results. As the Central India Agency Report for 1886-87 says:—

"The system hitherto followed of entrusting the charge of police and judicial matters as well as all revenue collections to the *Subas* of districts has resulted in a practical failure to carry out any one of these several branches of the administration.

"The police existed merely in name, dacoity and violent crimes were rife throughout all the districts of the State; there was no real protection to life or property, and the principle followed by the district officials appeared to lead to the concealment rather than to the prevention or detection of such crimes.

"In judicial matters the courts of the *Subas* and their assistants were choked with civil and criminal cases which had remained for disposal during many years; the fact that recent enquiries have proved that more than 50,000 cases were pending in the courts of the State is sufficient to show the necessity for reform in the administration of justice.

"The Revenue Department suffered in proportion; there was no proper system of collection, no consideration was given to the cultivating classes, no control was exercised over the zamindars and powerful land-holders; rents were collected with the utmost severity, and without regard to the vicissitudes of bad seasons, short crops and a dwindling population. He was considered the best district official, who contrived to squeeze the largest amount of revenue out of the cultivators; the result of this was that in many of the districts, notably in the northern and north-eastern parganas of Gwalior, villages which were formerly populous and well cultivated are now deserted and their lands lying waste, and the revenue has decreased more than 25 per cent on the receipts of 15 or 20 years ago."<sup>1</sup>

Under these disquieting conditions, the reorganisation of the State's judicial system was taken up along with other measures. As a result, by 1886-87, a separate staff of magistrates and munsiffs (civil judges) was appointed for doing criminal and civil work independently of the *Subas*, who were relieved of all judicial and police work and were directed, "to devote their whole energy to the supervision of the requirements of the people in matters connected with land revenue."<sup>2</sup> It appears, however, that this reform also did not work well for it was soon realized that, "by removing the control of the judiciary and police from the *Subas*, the separation of the executive and judicial functions had been carried out in one direction too completely."<sup>3</sup> Therefore, by about 1890 the magisterial powers were restored to them; they were again given control of the police and made responsible for the preservation of law and order and suppression of crime. As a corollary to this, the magistrates and police officers were placed once again under the *Subas*, and the *Zila* Superintendents of Police

1. Report on the Administration of Central India Agency, 1886-87, p. 119.

2. *ibid* p. 119.

3. *ibid* p. 2.



were made Assistant *Subas* in charge of police. Thus, towards the close of the last century, the *Suba* was back in his position as the chief magisterial and police authority in the district. During the reorganization of the police administration in 1903, however, the police was again taken out of the hands of the *Subas* but only to be replaced under them in 1906 when they were made *ex-officio* Assistant Inspectors General of Police in their respective districts.<sup>1</sup> They continued to hold this position in the police hierarchy until the State's merger in Madhya Bharat.

During the first decade of this century, other administrative changes also took place in the district administration. Separate departments of forests and customs were organised in the State in about 1904 and in consequence the *Subas* were relieved of these subjects.<sup>2</sup> A much more important change came in 1907-08 when following the introduction of a scheme for the separation of the executive from the judiciary, district and pargana officers were appointed for conducting the judicial work under the direct control of the Law Department of the State.<sup>3</sup> Although under this scheme, the revenue officers were relieved of the work of a purely judicial nature, sufficient magisterial authority was retained in them to, "preserve their prestige and influence over the public."<sup>4</sup> The responsibility for the maintenance of peace and order in districts continued to be with the *Subas* as District Magistrates, who were invested with magisterial powers under the preventive sections of the Gwalior Criminal Procedure Code and were given exclusive jurisdiction over cases relating to the taking of security for keeping the peace and for good behaviour.

But the period that followed saw the gradual enlargement of the functions of the *Subas* again. In 1912-13 the excise administration in the district, which had thus far been attended to by the excise staff independently of the district revenue officers, was placed under the direct supervision of the latter. In the same year, instructions were issued by the Government for the association of revenue officers with the settlement staff in the districts coming under settlement operations. This was followed in the succeeding year by the devolution of control and supervision of the land records work on the Revenue Officers. It may be noted here that till then this ancillary branch of the revenue administration had been directly under the Director of Land Records. To assist the *Subas* in the additional duties of land records, a *Naib-Suba* (Deputy Collector) was posted in each district. The activities of the Agriculture Department in districts were also placed under the control of the *Subas* in 1924-25. The next change came in 1934-35 when the general control of forests in districts was again handed over to the *Subas* by making the District Forest Officers responsible to the former in matters of forest administration.<sup>5</sup>

This position continued more or less unchanged, except that after the outbreak of the last World War, the district revenue officers, as in other parts of

1. Gwalior State Gazetteer, p. 119.

2. Report on the Administration of Central India Agency, 1909-10, p. 16.

3. Report on the Administration of the Gwalior State, 1907-08, p. 8.

4. *ibid* 1908-09, pp. 47-48.

5. *ibid* 1934-35, p. 69.



the country, were called upon to exercise various regulatory and control functions of Government such as the administration of control on food, civil supplies, housing accommodation, etc.

On the formation of Madhya Bharat, the foregoing position and functions of the *Subas* were not only retained but were also augmented in some respects. For instance, in order to enable them to discharge their ultimate responsibility for the maintenance of law and order, the Government delegated to them in 1949-50 its powers under various security acts, such as the Maintenance of Public Order Act, the Prohibition of Associations Dangerous to the Public Peace Act, etc. At the same time, in order to relieve them of the burden of routine duties, certain powers exercisable by District Magistrates under the Criminal Procedure Code, were conferred on the *Naib-Subas* stationed at district headquarters. In the succeeding year the Government issued comprehensive instructions defining the duties and functions of the *Subas*. According to these instructions, the *Suba*, besides being the head of the district revenue administration and the custodian of law and order in the district, was also to function as the chief representative of the Government, head of the General Administration and the chief co-ordinating authority for the activities of other departments in the district.<sup>1</sup>

Then came the First Five-Year Plan. The position occupied by the Collector—as he was designated by this time—in the district was so central that he had to function as the key-stone of the Plan structure in the district. He was made the Chairman of the District Planning Committee which was set up to formulate and implement the Plan. This together with his role as the co-ordinating officer for all developmental activities in the district truly made him, “the pivot on which the district administration turned.” This position has continued to the present.

### Collectorate

The Collector of Gwalior District has five Deputy Collectors to assist him, three of whom are in charge of sub-divisions. The headquarters of all the sub-divisional officers and of the other two Deputy Collectors are at Gwalior. At the outset it might be useful to depict the organisational set-up of the Collectorate under three main groups of functions of the Collector, *viz.*, (i) land revenue, land records and other cognate matters, (ii) law and order, and (iii) development.

For the administration of the first group of subjects the district is divided into three tahsils *viz.*, Gird, Pichhore and Bhandar. Each tahsil is headed by the Sub-Divisional Officer, who is also the Sub-Divisional Magistrate. There is a Tahsildar in each tahsil, except in the Gird tahsil where two additional Tahsildars have also been provided to cope with the heavy work. The Tahsildars are assisted by Naib-Tahsildars, their number in the Gird, Pichhore and Bhandar tahsils being eight, two and one respectively. At the village level, the revenue and land records work is carried on by patwaris, each of whom is in charge of one or more villages grouped in 265 patwari circles. They are under the immediate



supervision of 10 revenue inspectors, each in charge of a group of patwari circles. A tahsil-wise break-up of these figures is given below:—

Tahsil	No. of Revenue Inspector Circles	No. of Pat- wari Circles
(1)	(2)	(3)
Gird .. .. .	4	92
Pichhore .. .. .	4	110
Bhandar .. .. .	2	63
	10	265

At the district level, a Superintendent of Land Records and an Assistant Superintendent of Land Records supervise the land records work of the revenue inspectors and patwaris. They are under the administrative control of the Director of Land Records through the Collector.

In the maintenance of law and order, the Collector as District Magistrate is assisted by the magistracy and the police, the two main components of district administration. The former includes the Additional District Magistrate (Executive), who is in immediate charge of Greater Gwalior, the Sub-Divisional Magistrates, all of whom are first class magistrates and the tahsildars, who are second class magistrates. All these officers exercise magisterial powers under the Code of Criminal Procedure but their powers are restricted by executive instructions of Government in Chapters VIII, IX and XI of the Code, which relate to prevention of crime and breach of peace, security proceedings, removal of nuisance, supervision and control over investigation of crime upto the stage the accused is challaned in a criminal court, etc. The actual trial of criminal cases is, however, conducted by the officers of the district judiciary, which derives its functions and powers in direct line from the High Court. The judiciary of the district is headed by the District and Sessions Judge and is composed of Additional District and Sessions Judges and Civil Judges. The police force in the district is commanded by the Senior Superintendent of Police, who is assisted by several categories of gazetted and non-gazetted personnel. The organisational set-up of the judiciary and police will be described at some length in the appropriate context below.

In the discharge of his functions relating to developmental activities, the Collector is assisted by a Deputy Collector, who is in charge of the Development Section of the Collectorate. There are five Development Blocks in the district *viz.*, Morar, Dabra, Bhitwar, Bhandar and Ghatigaon. Each block is headed by a Block Development Officer, who is provided with a team of Extension officers drawn from eight departments, *viz.*, Agriculture, Veterinary and Animal Husbandry, Cooperation, Public Works, Public Health, Social Educa-



tion, Panchayats and Industries. Further down, there are 12 village level workers (including two women workers known as Gramsevikas) attached to each block.

Apart from the three main groups of functions mentioned above, the Collector has many other statutory and non-statutory functions to perform. For example he is also vested with executive and administrative powers in regard to matters pertaining to excise. The excise staff is headed by a District Excise Officer, whose jurisdiction also extends to the district of Morena. He is assisted by three Excise Inspectors and ten Excise Sub-Inspectors in the Gwalior District. For purpose of excise administration, the district is divided into four circles, viz., Greater Gwalior, Gwalior tahsil interior, Pichhore and Bhandar. An Excise Inspector is in charge of the Greater Gwalior circle, where six Excise Sub-Inspectors assist him. Each of the other three circles is in charge of an Excise Sub-Inspector, whose work is supervised by an Excise Inspector in combined charge of all these circles. For the distillery at Lashkar, there is an Excise Inspector and a Sub-Inspector. A Prosecuting Officer of the rank of an Excise Sub-Inspector is also stationed at Gwalior for prosecution of excise cases in courts.

The control of the district treasury and sub-treasuries is also vested in the Collector. For the district treasury at Gwalior, there is a separate Treasury Officer, who is drawn from the cadre of the Madhya Bharat Financial Service, while the tahsil sub-treasuries are in charge of the respective Tahsildars.

The execution of the Registration Act is the responsibility of the Collector. In this work, he is assisted by a Deputy Collector who functions as District Registrar. There is a whole-time Sub-Registrar for the Gwalior town while in the tahsils, the Tahsildars function as *ex-officio* Sub-Registrars.

In addition to the above, many other miscellaneous subjects such as *Muafi* and *Aukaf*,<sup>1</sup> Rehabilitation of refugees from Pakistan, Food and Civil Supplies, Panchayats, settlement of landless families into colonies, Census operations, Elections, Agriculture, Harijan and Tribal Welfare, etc., are also assigned to the Collector. In the work, relating to agriculture and Harijan Welfare, he is assisted by the District Agricultural Officer and the District Harijan Organizer respectively. In the other functions, one or the other of the Deputy Collectors assists him.

The Collector is also associated with a number of official and non-official committees in the district. Notable among the former is the District Advisory Committee, which was set up in the district in 1958 in pursuance of a general decision of the government. The Collector is the Chairman of this Committee which consists of many non-officials as its members, such as, the local M.L.A.s and M.P.s, the Sarpanchas of Mandal and Kendra Panchayats, the Mayor of the Gwalior Municipal Corporation, the President of the District Congress Commit-

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1. **Muafi** is a grant of land free from all obligations as to payment of tribute, service, etc. **Aukaf** means a bequest for religious or charitable purposes.



tee a representative each of labour and industry, the convener of the Gwalior branch of the Bharat Sewak Samaj, etc. A Deputy Collector works as the Secretary of the Committee. The functions of the Committee are to advise the Collector in respect of problems of a purely local character which affect general public interest. This Committee also discharges all functions of the various Advisory Committees, which had functioned previously in the district such as the District Planning Committee, etc. It also acts as the District Advisory Committee under the Emergency Relief Organizations Scheme and Small Savings Scheme, and is further charged with securing public cooperation in the prohibition policy of the government.

Before describing the organisational set-up of other government agencies at the district level in Gwalior district, it is necessary to mention that the offices of some departments in this district exercise their jurisdiction beyond the limits of the revenue district and sometimes cover one or two other neighbouring districts as well.

### Judiciary

Regular civil and criminal courts were established in the former Gwalior State for the first time in 1853. These courts were presided over by *Subas* and other officials until 1907-08 when following the separation of the executive from the judiciary, separate District and Sessions Judges and other Judicial Officers were appointed and placed under the direct control of the Law Department of the State.<sup>1</sup> Before the State merged in Madhya Bharat, the judicial machinery, both civil and criminal, at the district level, was under the control of a District and Sessions Judge. Above him was the High Court of Judicature of Gwalior, which was situated at Lashkar. It was the highest tribunal in the State, subject to an appeal or revision to the Ruler who had appointed a Judicial Committee to hear and determine such cases. At the headquarters of the Gwalior district were the courts of the District and Sessions Judge, City Sub-Judge and a District Sub-Judge. There was a Small Causes Court at Lashkar, which exercised powers in small causes suits upto a certain pecuniary limit within the city's municipal limits. Each tahsil had a Pargana Judicial Officer, who, besides having jurisdiction in civil suits, was also a Second Class Magistrate. A bench of Honorary Magistrates and Honorary Municipal Magistrates with second class and third class powers respectively also functioned at Gwalior.

In Madhya Bharat, there was practically no change in the functions and powers of the judiciary at the district level except that it was directly subordinate to the Madhya Bharat High Court, which was the highest court of appeal in the State. The district of Shivpuri was joined to the Sessions district of Gwalior in 1952. The District and Sessions Judge of this district was assisted at the headquarters by an Additional District and Sessions Judge and Civil Judges Class I and II and in tahsil by Civil Judges class II.

All the Civil Judges also exercised first class magisterial powers. The courts of the Honorary Magistrates and Honorary Municipal Magistrates at Lashkar

1. Although this reform was introduced in 1907-08, it was carried out in its entirety by about 1910.



were abolished in 1950. A Municipal Magistrate with first class powers was appointed in 1952 at Lashkar to try offences under the Gwalior Municipal Act. Munsiff Magistrates with second class powers were also appointed at Lashkar to try petty civil and criminal cases but this institution was later abolished.

In the present set-up, which continues to retain its old lineaments, the Gwalior Sessions Division consisting of Gwalior, Shivpuri and Datia districts is headed by a District and Sessions Judge, who has his headquarters at Gwalior. There are five Additional District and Sessions Judges in this division, three of whom reside at Gwalior and the other two at Shivpuri and Datia<sup>1</sup>. Of the latter, five are posted at Gwalior and one each of the remaining four has his court at Shivpuri, Kolaras, Karera and Datia. One of the Civil Judges Class II at Gwalior, and the Civil Judge at Karera hold link courts for about 10 days in a month at Bhandar and Pichhore respectively. An Additional District Magistrate (Judicial), who is also City Magistrate Class I, and a Municipal Magistrate Class I, are also posted at Gwalior under this Sessions Division.

### Police

Although a separate police staff consisting of *kotwals*, *thanedars*, constables and *chowkidars* was appointed in the former Gwalior State as long ago as 1853, a regular police force was established in the State only in 1889. It was placed under an Inspector General, who was assisted by a Deputy Inspector General, District Superintendents, Court Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors. The force underwent many processes of reorganisation from time to time. Its administrative hierarchy, at the time of the State's merger in Madhya Bharat, consisted of the Inspector General as the Chief Executive, Deputy Inspector General in charge of ranges and Superintendents in charge of districts. Below the Superintendent in the district were Deputy Superintendents, Inspectors, Sub-Inspectors, Head Constables and Constables. Under this arrangement, the Superintendent of Police, Lashkar, was, however, under the direct supervision of the Inspector General. There was also a District Intelligence staff at the headquarters of each district.

In Madhya Bharat, a District Superintendent of Police and an Additional Superintendent of Police were posted in the Gwalior district. A Superintendent of Police in charge of the Reserved Armed Police was also stationed at Gwalior. The District Intelligence staff at Gwalior was placed under a Zonal Officer of the rank of a Deputy Superintendent of Police. The work of the district police was under the immediate supervision of the D.I.G., Northern Range.

After the formation of Madhya Pradesh State the set-up in Gwalior district is that the executive force in the district is headed by the Senior Superintendent of Police, who has a Superintendent of Police in charge of the rural area and four Deputy Superintendents, one of whom is the City Superintendent for Greater Gwalior, while each of the remaining three is in charge of C.I.D., anti-dacoity, operational intelligence, and office work, respectively. The Senior Superintendent is under the immediate control of the D.I.G., Northern Range.

<sup>1</sup> Datia has been included in this division from 15th August 1961.



who also has his headquarters at Gwalior and whose charge comprise, besides Gwalior, the districts of Bhind, Morena, Datia, Shivpuri, Guna and Vidisha.

The district, including Greater Gwalior, is divided into the following 16 police stations:—

- (1) Kotwali, (2) Janakganj, (3) Indraganj, (4) Madhoganj, (5) Gwalior, (6) Morar, (7) Bijoli, (8) Antri, (9) Pichhore, (10) Dabra, (11) Bhit arwar, (12) Panniar, (13) Ghatigaon, (14) Bhandar, (15) Pandokher, and (16) Behat.

The total strength of these stations is 24 Sub-Inspectors, 52 Head Constables and 454 Constables.

Four more police stations were created in the district in 1957 at Maharaj-pura, Tigra, Gijora and Karhaiya in connection with anti-dacoity operations. The strength of these stations consist of two Inspectors, four Sub-Inspectors, four Assistant Sub-Inspectors, four Head Constables and 48 Constables.

The District Reserve Police force of Gwalior has a strength of 12 Sub-Inspectors, 80 Head Constables and 334 Constables while the district L.I.B. consists of a Inspector, four Sub-Inspectors, 10 Head Constables and 11 Constables.

To meet the requirements of traffic control in the city a separate squad consisting of a Sub-Inspector, two Head Constables and 40 Constables has been provided. The prosecution branch of the district is manned by a prosecuting Inspector, seven Sub-Inspectors, a Head Constable and 14 Constables.

### Education

An Education Department was established in the former Gwalior State as early as 1863. It was headed by an Inspector General of Education, who was later assisted by Deputy Inspector General, Circle Inspector of Schools and Inspectresses of Girls' Schools. The Gwalior district along with the former Sheopur district, formed the Gwalior Education Circle.

In Madhya Bharat, the head of this department was designated Director of Education. He was assisted among others, by Deputy Directors at the headquarters, Regional Deputy Directors, District Inspectors, Deputy Inspectors and Assistant Inspectors. Degree Colleges and some special institutions were, however, under the direct control of the Secretary.

The organisational structure and functions of this department have undergone a change in the reorganised State of Madhya Pradesh. The department's activities are now classified into two broad categories, *viz.*, (i) Collegiate, and (ii) non-Collegiate education. The former is under the direct control of the Secretary to Government in the Education Department. This branch is further divided into two sections *viz.*, (a) Technical and (b) non-Technical. For the administration of Polytechnics and other Technical Schools under (a) the Secretary is assisted by a Joint Director of Technical Education while the Engineering Colleges are directly under the Secretary. All the institutions falling under (b), such as Degree Colleges and Post-Graduate Colleges, are also directly administered by the Secretary.



For non-Collegiate education, there is a separate Directorate of Public Instruction. Besides, the Director, it consists, among others of Deputy Directors, Assistant Directors, District Inspectors and Deputy Inspectors.

Under the present set-up, Gwalior is the headquarters of the Deputy Director, Gwalior Division, whose charge comprises the districts of Gwalior, Bhind, Morena, Shivpuri and Datia. For the supervision of primary and middle schools in the Gwalior district, he is assisted by an Inspector of Schools, the latter in his turn, being assisted by a Deputy Inspector. The supervision of other schools and institutions, including the Central Library at Gwalior, is the direct responsibility of the Deputy Director.

Gwalior is also the headquarters of the Regional Inspectress of Schools who, assisted by two Assistant Inspectresses, looks after women's education in the Gwalior Division under the supervision of the Deputy Director.

### **Public Works**

A Public Works Department existed in the former Gwalior State as long ago as in the time of Jayaji Rao Sindhia. Under the Council of Regency (1886-1894) it was controlled by an Engineer-in-Chief, who was also called Chief Engineer. A series of organisational changes were made in this department during the early part of Madhav Rao Sindhia's regime. In 1897 the post of Chief Engineer was abolished and the department was placed under the administrative charge of the Director of Land Records. The department was, however, replaced under the control of a Chief Engineer in 1900 when the State's Irrigation Branch, which was till then under the Land Department, was also transferred to the Public Works Department. The next change was introduced in 1905 when the post of the Chief Engineer was again abolished and each of the two branches of the department dealing with Roads and Buildings and Irrigation, was constituted as a separate department under a Superintending Engineer. Under this arrangement the work of each department was divided into territorial divisions, each under a Sub-Divisional Officer. The Irrigation Department was further divided into sub-divisions and later its staff was so distributed that each district and tahsil had a separate Irrigation Officer. The designation of the Superintending Engineer was subsequently changed to administrative Officer until 1935 when he was re-designated as Chief Engineer.

In 1938 these two departments were again amalgamated to constitute the Public Works Department with the Chief Engineer as the head of the department. He was assisted by Inspecting Engineers of circles (corresponding to the present Superintending Engineers) who, in turn, were assisted by District Engineers posted in each district. Below the district level, there were Sub-Divisional Officers.

In Madhya Bharat this Department was again divided into two separate branches, *viz.*, (i) P.W.D. (Buildings and Roads), and (ii) Irrigation, but both under the administrative control of a common Chief Engineer. For the work of each branch, the State was divided into Circles, each under a Superintending Engineer. The circles were further divided into divisions, some of which



comprised more than one district, with an Executive Engineer in charge of each division, who was assisted by Assistant Engineers and Sub-Divisional Officers.

This organisational structure has continued in Madhya Pradesh except that the two branches, viz., Buildings and Roads and Irrigation, are headed by separate Chief Engineers since 1st November 1956. Under the present set-up, each of the two branches of the department in the Gwalior division is in the charge of an Executive Engineer, whose work is supervised and controlled by his respective Superintending Engineer with headquarters at Gwalior. The jurisdiction of the Superintending Engineer, Buildings and Roads, extends to the Public Works divisions of Gwalior, Bhind, Morena, Shivpuri and Guna while that of his counter-part in the Irrigation Branch comprises the Irrigation divisions of Gwalior, Guna, Shajapur and Bhind. The present set-up of each branch in Gwalior Division is given below :—

**Buildings and Roads.**—This division is split up into five sub-divisions, each under an Assistant Engineer or a Sub-Divisional Officer. The jurisdiction of each of these sub-divisions is indicated below:—

(1) *Gwalior Sub-division (Gwalior headquarters)*—This deals with the maintenance of all roads and buildings in Greater Gwalior.

(2) *District Sub-Division, Gwalior*—The maintenance of all roads and buildings in the Gwalior tahsil (excluding Greater Gwalior), Pichhore tahsil, the Agra-Bombay road (from mile No. 66 to 109) and the construction of new roads, bridges and buildings in the district, outside Greater Gwalior, are assigned to this sub-division.

(3) *Special Works Sub-Division*—This Sub-Division looks after construction work of buildings in Greater Gwalior.

(4) *Electrical and Mechanical Works Sub-Division*—This Sub-Division is in charge of the maintenance and repairs of tools and plants of the department in the Gwalior Circle. Although this sub-division is under the Executive Engineer, its machinery, etc., is supervised by the Executive Engineer (Mechanical and Electrical).

(5) *Datia Sub-Division*—This deals with the maintenance and construction works of all roads and buildings in the Datia district.

**Irrigation:**—The Irrigation Division, Gwalior, is divided into the following five sub-divisions:—

- (1) Morar Irrigation Sub-Division, Gwalior,
- (2) Irrigation Sub-Division, Gwalior,
- (3) Dabra Sub-Division, Dabra,
- (4) Harsi Construction Sub-Division, Dabra, and
- (5) Minor Irrigation Works Sub-Division, Datia.

Each sub-division is in charge of an Assistant Engineer or a Sub-Divisional Officer.



## Public Health

A Medical Department was organised in the former Gwalior State as far back as 1887 to provide relief according to the methods of western medical science.<sup>1</sup> It was headed by a Chief Medical Officer, who was later appointed as the State's Sanitary Commissioner also. On the medical side, he was assisted by Superintendents of Dispensaries, each in charge of a group of districts and Assistant Surgeons at district headquarters. All the civil and military hospitals at Gwalior were placed under the Civil Surgeon, Lashkar. A Woman Superintendent of Maternity Homes supervised the work of maternity homes. On the public health side, the Chief Medical Officer was assisted by a Deputy Sanitary Commissioner until 1947 when a separate Director of Public Health was appointed under the overall charge of the Chief Medical Officer.

After the formation of Madhya Bharat the head of this department was called Director of Health Services. He was assisted by two Deputy Directors, one of whom was posted at Gwalior. Each district was placed under a District Medical Officer, under whom were Medical Officers and Assistant Medical Officers in subordinate charge. There was a separate Superintendent in charge of the special hospitals at Gwalior. For public health work, there were two Assistant Directors, who were assisted in each district by a Medical Officer of Health, a Sanitary Inspector and other staff.

Under the existing set-up, a Deputy Director continues to function at Gwalior. His jurisdiction extends to the districts of Gwalior, Morena, Bhind, Shivpuri, Guna and Rajgarh. The District Medical Officer at Gwalior assists him in the work of the Gwalior and Morena districts but he has no jurisdiction over the J. A. Group of Hospitals and some other special institutions at Gwalior, which are under separate Superintendents who work under the immediate control of the Deputy Director. Each of the other hospitals and dispensaries in the district is under a Medical Officer or an Assistant Medical Officer. Since the launching of the Five Year Plans, Primary Health Centres have also been established in the district for providing the rural areas with preventive and curative health service. Each centre is staffed by a medical officer of the rank of Assistant Surgeon, Sanitary Inspector, Health Visitor and a Midwife.

A Medical Officer of Health, assisted by a Sanitary Inspector and Extra Sanitary Inspectors, supervises the public health activities in the district. An Anti-Malaria Unit is also stationed at Gwalior which is headed by the Malaria Medical Officer. His work is supervised by the Assistant Director, Malaria, who also has his headquarters at Gwalior.

## Forests

Forestry in the former Gwalior State was organised in a scientific way in 1904 when a separate Forest Department was established with a Conservator of Forests as the head of the department. The executive and protective staff of this department consisted of rangers, sub-rangers, foresters, round guards and guards, who were posted in various ranges and sub-ranges in districts. These ranges were under Assistant Conservators, who were later styled as Divisional Forest Officers. The Gwalior range was, however, under the direct charge

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1. Gwalior State Gazetteer, p. 121.



of the Conservator. This department was reorganised in 1934-35 when the general control of district forests was handed over to *Subas* and the Divisional Forest Officers were designated as District Forest Officers. Following this the designation of the Conservator also underwent some changes. In 1934-35 he was called Administrative Officer, later as Inspecting Officer and in 1939 the original designation of Conservator was restored.

When Madhya Bharat was formed, the head of this department was designated as Chief Conservator of Forests. The forest areas of the State were divided into territorial circles, each under a Conservator. The circles were divided into forest divisions, each under a Divisional Forest Officer. The Forest Divisions were split up into ranges, sub-ranges and beats, each under the charge of a Ranger, Deputy Ranger and Forest Guard respectively.

This organizational pattern continues in new Madhya Pradesh. At present, the Gwalior Forest Division, headed by the Divisional Forest Officer, comprises the districts of Gwalior and Bhind with headquarters at Gwalior. Among other things, the Divisional Forest Officer is responsible for matters relating to protection, exploitation and regeneration of forests in his charge. There are three forest ranges in the Gwalior district *viz.*, Gwalior, Ghatigaon and Benhat, which are parcelled into the following three sub-ranges and 62 forest beats :—

Range with headquarters		Sub-range with head quarters			Forest Beats
(1)		(2)			(3)
1. Gwalior	..	..	(1) Antri	.. ..	9
			(2) Pawa	.. ..	8
			(3) Raipur	.. ..	7
			(4) Sousa	.. ..	5
2. Ghatigaon	..	..	(1) Aron	.. ..	10
			(2) Renhat	.. ..	8
3. Benhat	..	..	(1) Ratwa	.. ..	7
			(2) Toholi	.. ..	8
Total					62

At the headquarters, the Divisional Forest Officer is assisted by an Assistant Conservator of Forests, a forest demarcation ranger and another forest ranger for miscellaneous work.

Gwalior is also the headquarters of the Conservator of Forests, Gwalior Circle. This Circle comprises the forest divisions of Gwalior, Shivpuri, Sheopur, Guna and Tikamgarh.

### Veterinary

A Civil Veterinary Department was organised in the former Gwalior State as early as in 1909. After the creation of an Agriculture Department in 1916, it was made a section of that department under a Civil Veterinary



Officer. The Section was separated from the Agriculture Department in 1937-38 when it was amalgamated with the Army Veterinary Section and placed under a Director of Veterinary Department. The Army Veterinary section was detached from this department in 1941, and from this time the head of the department was known as Director of Civil Veterinary Department. In the districts, there were Veterinary Assistant Surgeons in charge of veterinary dispensaries, who were assisted by inoculators and compounders. Their work was supervised by Veterinary Inspectors.

With the formation of Madhya Bharat, the head of this department was designated as Director of Veterinary and Animal Husbandry Services. The State was divided into 11 veterinary districts, each district being under the charge of a Veterinary Officer with Veterinary Assistant Surgeons and other staff to assist him. The Fisheries Section also formed a part of this department, and was in the charge of a Fisheries Development Officer who was assisted by Assistant Fisheries Development Officers and other field staff, consisting of Fisheries Wardens and Fishermen.

In the reorganised State of Madhya Pradesh, this department's activities in the Gwalior district are under a Veterinary Inspector whose jurisdiction extend to Datia district also. In the Gwalior district, he is assisted by five Veterinary Assistant Surgeons, out of whom two are working as Artificial Insemination Inspectors. There are 14 Veterinary dispensaries in this district. They are looked after by the Veterinary Assistant Surgeons who are assisted by Veterinary Compounders.

Gwalior is also the headquarters of the Superintendent of Fisheries for the Gwalior Region. He is assisted in the Gwalior district by two Assistant Fisheries Development Officers.

The work of the Veterinary Inspector and the Superintendent of Fisheries is under the immediate supervision of the Deputy Director of Veterinary and Animal Husbandry Services, Gwalior Division, who also has his headquarters at Gwalior. A Mobile Unit Dispensary functions at Gwalior under his control.

### Agriculture

As observed earlier, the Gwalior State's Agriculture Department was set up in 1916 to improve the general system of agriculture and to impress the Zamindars by practical demonstrations as to how they can make themselves prosperous.<sup>1</sup> The functions of this department were discharged in the districts by Agriculture Assistants, who were under the administrative control of an Agriculture Adviser to Government. The department underwent an important organizational change at the district level in 1924 when, with a view to popularizing and intensifying its activities in rural areas, a scheme was introduced under which every pargana in a district was divided into circles, each of which was placed incharge of a Naib-Tahsildar, who worked under the immediate supervision of the Agriculture Assistant. The Naib-Tahsildar was expected to devote his attention primarily to the improvement of the more

1. Michael Brown, Gwalior To-day, p. 43.



important agricultural crops and to organise demonstration and propaganda centres in his circle. The *Subas* were given necessary powers to control and supervise the work of the Agriculture Assistant who was described as Secretary to the *Suba* in agricultural matters. The Naib-Tahsildars were, however, withdrawn from the Agriculture Department after about a couple of years. The department was again reorganised during the thirties when the designation of the Agriculture Adviser was changed to Director of Agriculture. He was assisted by Deputy Directors and an Assistant Director at the headquarters and by Inspectors of Agriculture in District.

In Madhya Bharat, there was a District Agricultural Officer for one or more districts. He functioned under the overall supervision of the Collector but, for departmental work, he was at the same time subordinate to the Deputy Director of Agriculture posted in each division. Under this set-up, there was a District Agricultural Officer for the districts of Gwalior and Bhind. He was assisted by two Agriculture Assistants and six demonstrators in the Gwalior district.

In the present set-up, there is a separate District Agricultural Officer for the Gwalior district. For work in areas, outside the development blocks, he is provided with two Agriculture Assistants and four Demonstrators. In areas covered by development blocks, Agriculture Extension Officers of the rank of Agriculture Assistants carry out the extension plans of the department with the help of village level workers. The Agriculture Extension Officers function under the Block Development Officers, subject to the technical supervision of their work by the District Agricultural Officer, who, like his predecessor in former Madhya Bharat, is subordinate to both the Collector and the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Gwalior Division, the latter having his headquarters at Gwalior.

### Cooperation

The cooperative movement was started in the Gwalior State in 1916. A separate department, under a Director of Coöperative Societies, was created to look after the organisation and supervision of cooperative banks and societies. The Director was assisted by Deputy Directors, an Assistant Director, a Chief Auditor, Auditors and Inspectors. Later, this staff was augmented by the addition of Circle Officers, who controlled the audit of societies, did propaganda work and distributed loans. During the reorganisation of the department in 1938, the posts of Circle Officers were abolished and instead District Inspectors were appointed in each district. They were assisted by auditors, who were later designated as Sub-Inspectors. In 1939-40, the Director was also appointed as Registrar of Cooperative Societies, and under this designation he functioned as the head of the department from 1944-45 onwards.

In former Madhya Bharat a new department, called the Development Department, was organised in 1948 by the amalgamation of the departments of



Cooperation, Village Panchayats and Rural Uplift, existing in the various covenanting States. This department was headed by the Development Commissioner, who was also Registrar, Cooperative Societies. He was assisted by Regional Deputy Development Commissioners-cum-Deputy Registrars of Cooperative Societies. The work in districts was in the charge of Development Officers-cum-Assistant Registrars of Cooperative Societies, who, in turn, were assisted by Development Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors. In August 1956 the Development Department was split up into two separate departments *viz.*, Cooperation and Panchayats. The Cooperative Department was headed by a Registrar of Cooperative Societies, who was assisted by Deputy Registrars for each division and by Assistant Registrars for one or more districts.

Under the present set-up, the work of this department in the Gwalior district is in the charge of an Assistant Registrar, who also looks after the work in Datia district. He is assisted by 9 Inspectors and 14 Sub-Inspectors. The Assistant Registrar functions under the immediate supervision of the Deputy Registrar of Cooperative Societies, Gwalior Division, Gwalior.

#### Industries

It has already been mentioned that a Board of Economic Development existed in the former Gwalior State for advising Government on all schemes of economic and industrial development. The work of implementing the Government's industrial policy was, however, looked after by the State's Secretariat Department of Industries, Commerce and Communications, the Secretary of which was also *ex-officio* Inspector-General of Commerce. It was after the formation of Madhya Bharat that a separate Directorate of Industries was established. Besides the Director, it consisted of Assistant Directors or Superintendents of Industries, each in charge of a circle.

In the reorganised State of Madhya Pradesh, the work of the Directorate of Industries in the Gwalior district is in the charge of an Assistant Director. The district of Datia is also included in his charge. He is assisted by two Inspectors. Besides performing the usual function of the department, the Assistant Director is also in charge of the State Emporia and the Industrial Estate at Gwalior.

#### Panchayats

Panchayat Boards were established in the former Gwalior State as early as in 1912. These Boards were designed to provide an inexpensive and speedy machinery to settle petty civil, criminal and revenue cases by members of the public themselves. They functioned as independent units under the administrative control of the respective District and Sessions Judges, and subject to jurisdictional control of the *Subas* and Tahsildars in their areas.

After the formation of Madhya Bharat, a broad-based pyramidal structure of rural local self-governing institutions was set up under the Development Commissioner as the head of the department. Under this scheme, all types of panchayats, functioning in the various covenanting States, were replaced by three categories of panchayats, *viz.*, Gram Panchayats, Kendra Panchayats and Mandal Panchayats, the first category forming the base and the third the apex of the structure. These panchayats were made the chief agency for carrying



out rural developmental activities in villages. Village school teachers and gram sevaks were appointed as part-time secretaries of the Gram and Kendra Panchayats, respectively while District Development Officers functioned as Secretaries to the Mandal Panchayats. Apart from these, Nyaya Panchayats were also established under this scheme for trying civil and criminal suits.

In order to establish a unified pattern of panchayats in Madhya Pradesh necessary legislation has been recently enacted and panchayat institutions under this scheme will be established shortly. Meanwhile the structure of local governing institutions broadly as it existed in Madhya Bharat continues in Gwalior district. Besides a Mandal Panchayat, there are five Kendra Panchayats and 169 Gram Panchayats in Gwalior district. There is now a separate Secretary of a gazetted rank for the Mandal Panchayat, Gwalior. All the panchayats function under the overall control of the Collector, who is assisted by a Deputy Collector incharge of the Panchayat section of the Collectorate.

Gwalior is also the headquarters of the Divisional Officer of Panchayats and Social Welfare, Gwalior Division, who works under the Director of Panchayats and Social Welfare. He supervises the working of the panchayats in his charge.

#### **Public Health Engineering**

A Sanitary Engineering Department was created in the former Gwalior State in 1934-35 under a Sanitary Engineer, who was also appointed as the *ex-officio* Chairman of the Town Improvement Trust. The department was responsible for the construction and maintenance of water works and drainage systems in Gwalior City and other towns, and for carrying out town improvement work. The Sanitary Engineer was assisted by an Assistant Engineer.

After the formation of Madhya Bharat, this organization was integrated with the newly created Public Health Engineering Department. This department was placed under a Sanitary Engineer, who was assisted by three Executive Engineers, stationed at Gwalior, Indore and Ujjain. The Executive Engineer at Gwalior was assisted by a Sub-Divisional Officer and an Assistant Engineer, the latter being in charge of the Water Works of Gwalior city. The Sanitary Engineer was also the *ex-officio* Chairman of the Gwalior Town Improvement Trust. This department was entrusted with the maintenance and improvement of water supply and drainage schemes, preparation and execution of town improvement schemes and urban and industrial housing schemes.

In new Madhya Pradesh the head of this department is designated as Public Health Engineer. The work regarding preparation and execution of housing schemes has been transferred from this department. Under the present set-up Gwalior is the headquarters of two Executive Engineers, one for the Public Health Division and the other for the Project Division. The former is responsible for the maintenance, construction, expansion and improvement of water supply and drainage schemes in the districts of Gwalior, Morena, Bhind, Shivpuri, Guna and Vidisha. The work of this division is divided into two sub-divisions, each in the charge of an Assistant Engineer.



The Project Division looks after the survey and preparation of water supply schemes in the Madhya Bharat region. There is an Assistant Engineer in this division, who is in charge of the Survey Sub-Division.

### Electricity

During the regime of the rulers of Gwalior State, there was no separate department for dealing with matters relating to electricity. The Power Houses at Gwalior and other places were run by the Gwalior Electric Supply Company, which was a state-owned commercial concern.

After the formation of Madhya Bharat, an Electricity Department was organised. The state was divided into two circles—northern and southern. Each circle was placed under the charge of a Superintending Engineer who was assisted by an Electrical Engineer for each Power House.

This department was merged in the Electricity Board, constituted in new Madhya Pradesh. Under the present set-up of the Board, there is a Divisional Engineer for the Gwalior Division who has his headquarters at Gwalior. This Division comprises the districts of Gwalior, Bhind, Morena and Datia and is staffed by seven Assistant Engineers, two of whom are in charge of generation of the Thermal Power House, Moti Jhil, Gwalior and the Diesel Power House at Lashkar. Each of the remaining five is in charge of (1) distribution, (2) civil works, (3) maintenance, (4) administration and (5) *ad hoc* jobs.

The Divisional Engineer, Gwalior Division, is under the control of the Superintending Engineer, Northern Circle with headquarters at Bhopal.

### Information and Publicity

There were two separate organizations in the former Gwalior State for discharging functions relating to (i) Publicity and (ii) Public relations. The former was under the charge of a Publicity Officer, who was designated as Director of Information in the forties, while the latter was under a Public Relations Officer, whose office was established in 1939-40. The Public Relations Office acted as a medium through which people organised in properly constituted bodies, such as the Sarvjanik Sabha, Anjuman Islam, Praja Hitkarini Mandal, Gwalior State Congress, Kisan and Mazdoor Sabha, etc., presented their grievances before government.

In Madhya Bharat both these organisations were merged in the Directorate of Information. Besides the Director, the Directorate consisted of a Deputy Director, Information Officers, Assistant Information Officers and other staff. Later, District Publicity Officers were also appointed in districts.

Under the existing set-up, Gwalior is the seat of the following offices of the Directorate of Information and Publicity.—

**Publications Division.**—This is under a Chief Editor who is assisted by an Editor, Assistant Editors, Sub-Editors and other staff. This Division is *inter alia* responsible for the production and publication of three journals namely *Gram Sudhar*, *Madhya Pradesh Sandesh*, both weeklies and *Pragati*, a monthly magazine.



(ii) **Regional Publicity Office, Gwalior.**—This is under a Regional Publicity Officer, who is assisted by a Journalist. The Regional Publicity Officer, is primarily in charge of publicity work in the Gwalior district.

### **Economics and Statistics**

In the former Gwalior State there was a Statistics Section in the Department of Industries and Commerce for maintaining statistics in trade and commerce. This Section was under a Superintendent of Statistics, who was designated Director of Statistics from 1939-40. Since that time the scope of the Section was also enlarged so as to include general and other statistics.

In Madhya Bharat this Section was merged into a newly created Department of Economic Intelligence and Statistics, headed by an Economic and Development Adviser, who worked under the administrative control of the Commerce Department. The main functions of this department were to collect, collate, analyse and publish statistical data relating to the economic activities of the various departments. It also advised the Government on economic and statistical matters and exercised control over the State and quasi-State Banks. From 1952 this department was renamed as 'Central Economic and Statistical Organization' and functioned as an attached office of the Cabinet Section of General Administration Department with an Economic and Statistical Intelligence Officer as its head. On the eve of States' reorganization, the name of this office was changed to 'Bureau of Economics and Statistics,' whose head was re-designated as Chief Economic and Statistical Intelligence Officer. He was assisted by Statistical Officers, Investigators, Computers and other staff at the headquarters. Later a District Statistical Officer was appointed in each district.

The Bureau brought out a number of publications, such as *Madhya Bharat in Statistics*, monthly, quarterly and annual statistical bulletins of Madhya Bharat, *Annual Economic Reviews of Madhya Bharat*, etc.

The present set-up of this office in Gwalior district consists of a District Statistical Officer who is assisted by a District Statistical Assistant. This office works under the control of the Director of Economics and Statistics. The District Statistical office prepares the *Annual District Statistical Abstracts*, *Economic Indicators of the District*, monthly reviews of the economic situation and Annual Progress Reports of the Five Year Plans in the district.

### **Employment Exchange**

An Employment Exchange was started in the former State in 1945 and was placed under the Divisional Labour Officer, Gwalior Division, who was appointed its *ex-officio* manager. But an Employment Exchange as a part of the All-India organization was established at Gwalior only in 1952 when a whole-time Employment Exchange Officer was appointed. This Exchange was under the administrative control of the Director-General of Re-settlement and Employment, Ministry of Labour, Government of India, until 31st October 1956



when, along with other exchanges in the State, it was transferred to the Madhya Pradesh Government under the Director of National Employment Service, now designated as Director of Employment and Training, with his headquarters at Jabalpur.

Under the present set-up, the Employment Exchange at Gwalior looks after the work of Gwalior, Morena, Bhind, Shivpuri and Datia districts. It is under an Employment Officer, who is assisted by a Junior Employment Officer and a Statistical Assistant.

The main activities of this organization are:—

- (1) placement function *i.e.*, the “matching of jobs and men” and
- (2) collection of employment market information.

### Labour

A labour Section in the Department of Industries and Commerce was created in the former Gwalior State for the first time in 1943. It was staffed by two Labour Officers, one of whom was appointed in the Gwalior Division. In the following year, he was designated as Senior Labour Officer. Subsequently, in 1947, a Labour Commissioner was also appointed. This set-up continued in Madhya Bharat, where the Labour Commissioner was assisted by a Deputy Labour Commissioner, Assistant Labour Commissioners, Labour Officers, Inspector for Minimum Wages, etc. The Deputy Labour Commissioner was posted at Gwalior and was assisted by a Labour Officer.

Under the existing set-up, Gwalior is the headquarters of an Assistant Commissioner of Labour, whose charge comprises the revenue divisions of Gwalior and Bhopal. He is assisted by a Labour Officer in respect of the work of the Gwalior revenue division. Two Inspectors for Minimum Wages and two Inspectors for the enforcement of the Shops and Establishment Act are also provided to assist the Assistant Labour Commissioner.

### Sales Tax

The Sales Tax Department in the Madhya Bharat region is of a comparatively recent origin. It was organized in 1950 when sales tax was first introduced in Madhya Bharat State. Its administrative machinery consisted of a Sales Tax Commissioner, as the head of the department, who was assisted by Assistant Commissioners, Sales Tax Officers and other staff. The actual execution of the Sales Tax Act and the collection of the tax were carried out by Sales Tax Officers, who worked as assessing authorities in the respective circles.

Under the present set-up the Gwalior Sales Tax Circle comprises the districts of Gwalior, Bhind, Morena and Datia with headquarters at Gwalior. There are two Sales Tax Officers in this circle, one for Gwalior proper and Dabra, and the other for the remaining areas. The other staff of the Circle includes five Assistant Sales Tax Officers, (three of whom reside at Gwalior) and seven Sales Tax Inspectors.

Gwalior is also the headquarters of two Regional Assistant Sales Tax Commissioners, one for appellate work and the other for administration, inspections and assessment of cases above an annual turn-over of rupees five lakhs.



Their region comprises all the districts of Gwalior revenue division and Shajapur, Rajgarh and Vidisha districts of Bhopal revenue division.

Since Gwalior happens to be the headquarters of the Commissioner of the revenue division of Gwalior and the seat of a Bench of the Madhya Pradesh High Court, it would be relevant to give here a brief account of their organizational set-up.

#### Commissioner, Gwalior Division

In 1853 the former Gwalior State was divided into three *Prants* or *Sar Subas* (divisions) of Gwalior, Isagarh and Malwa, each under a *Sar Suba* (Commissioner). The *Subas* functioned under the immediate control of the *Sar Suba*. The number of *Prants* was reduced to one in 1903-04 when, following the reorganization of administrative units, only the Malwa *Prant* was retained. Since that time, the State was divided for administrative purposes into two sections, Northern Gwalior and Malwa *Prant*, the former comprising seven districts including Gird Gwalior and the latter comprising four other districts. The system of administration differed in these two sections, in that the district officers in Northern Gwalior were directly under a Board of Revenue while the *Subas* in Malwa *Prant* were responsible to the Board through the *Sar Suba* of that *Prant*. In 1920 a *Sar Suba* for Gwalior *Prant* was again created with headquarters at Shivpuri but only to be abolished three years later along with the abolition of Malwa *Prant*.

The institution of Commissionerships was revived on the formation of Madhya Bharat, which was divided into three Commissioners' divisions, viz., Gwalior, Indore and Ujjain. A Commissioner was appointed for each division and all the revenue officers of the division were placed under him. In 1952 the number of Commissioners' divisions was reduced to two, viz., Northern and Southern divisions and the Commissioners were also associated with general administration. The Northern division with its headquarters at Gwalior, comprised the districts of Gwalior, Bhind, Morena, Shivpuri, Guna, Rajgarh and Shajapur.

This position continued until 31st October 1956 when consequent on the formation of new Madhya Pradesh, the state was divided into seven divisions (including the present Gwalior Division) each under the administrative control of a Commissioner. The Gwalior Division comprises the districts of Gwalior, Bhind, Morena, Shivpuri, Datia and Guna.

The Commissioner is principally the Head of the Revenue Department in this Division, in which capacity he performs many statutory and non-statutory functions. He hears appeals and applications for revision from the decisions of Collectors under the Madhya Pradesh Land Revenue Code, 1959. In this work he is assisted by an Additional Commissioner, whenever necessary. The Commissioner also exercises the powers of the Land Reforms Commissioner and Jagir Commissioner of the former Land Reforms Department of Madhya Bharat. In addition, the work of the *Muafi*, *Aukaf* and *Wakf* Departments of the former Gwalior State is looked after by him. He is at the same time responsible for making regular periodical inspections of the offices of all revenue officers in his charge.



The Commissioner exercises, through the District Magistrates, a general control over the administration of his division in all matters concerning the maintenance of law and order, prevention of crime, and is specially entrusted with the task of ensuring cooperation between the magistracy and the police.

In the context of the increased tempo of development activities, particularly community development, the Commissioner plays an important role at the divisional level. He is responsible for the supervision of and control over the working of offices concerned with planning and development in his division. Further, he is responsible for the co-ordination and supervision of the activities of the principal officers of the departments in the division with particular reference to planning and development. In the discharge of his functions relating to community development, the Commissioner is assisted by a Development Assistant (of the rank of a Deputy Collector) and an Accounts Officer. The former inspects the working of development blocks while the latter audits their accounts.

The Commissioner is also vested with powers of general supervision over local bodies in the division. Apart from these, the Commissioner, Gwalior division, is associated with several official and non-official committees such as the Chambal Water Utilization Committee, Tansen Festival Committee, Gwalior Fair and Exhibition Committee, the Divisional Soldiers' and Airmen's Board etc.

#### **High Court Bench, Gwalior.**

Under the rulers of Gwalior State, Gwalior was the seat of the State's High Court of Judicature. After the formation of Madhya Bharat, a High Court of Judicature, for Madhya Bharat, was constituted with two Benches at Gwalior and Indore. The jurisdiction of the Gwalior Bench comprised the districts of Gwalior, Bhind, Morena, Guna, Shivpuri, Vidisha and Datia.

Although the principal seat of the High Court in the reorganized State of Madhya Pradesh, is located at Jabalpur, a Bench of the High Court continues to function at Gwalior with the same jurisdiction. Three High Court Judges are posted to this Bench, and a Deputy Registrar assists the Bench in administrative work.

Partly as a result of the exigency arising from the reorganization of States, certain offices of the State Government have had to be located at Gwalior. A brief description of their set-up might be usefully given here for the sake of completeness.

### **STATE OFFICES**

#### **Board of Revenue**

Gwalior has been the headquarters of the Revenue Boards of former Gwalior State and Madhya Bharat.

The Revenue Board in Gwalior State was formed in 1896, and consisted, to begin with, of seven members. Subsequently this strength varied from time to time. Out of these, one member was in the charge of revenue appeals while



each of the other members was placed in individual charge of one or more departments, such as, Revenue, Land Records Settlement, Forests, Customs, Mines, Stamps and the like. There were many *ex-officio* Members of the Board, such as the Chief Secretary, the Chief Justice, the Chief Engineer, the Accountant-General, the Inspector General of Police, etc. The Revenue Board was later replaced by a Revenue Bench of Appeals, the function of which was confined to hearing of appeals on the orders of *Suba*. This Bench had two branches, one at Gwalior and the other Ujjain. Revisions and appeals on the decisions of the Revenue Bench could lie to the Judicial Committee of Gwalior State.

The Revenue Board of Madhya Bharat was constituted in 1948 to supervise and control the revenue administration. Besides being the highest body for revenue administration, the Board was also the highest tribunal for appeals and revisions of revenue and settlement cases. Formerly it consisted of three Members, one Senior Member and two Judicial Members. The Senior Member was in charge of the revenue administration while the other two Members heard revenue appeals against the orders of the Commissioners. When the case came before the full bench, the Senior Member presided. The authority and functions of the Board were enlarged in 1952 when its membership was reduced to two. Subject to general control of Government, it was made the highest authority also for district treasuries and sub-treasuries, land records, settlement and stamps. Powers of appointment in respect of subordinate revenue services were also vested in the Board. At the same time, it was also required to be consulted on policy matters affecting irrigation and forests and in legislation affecting agriculturists and revenues of the State.

The constitution of the Board of Revenue in the reorganised state of Madhya Pradesh has undergone a change. At present, it consists of a President and two Members.<sup>1</sup> The Board functions as the highest court of appeal in revenue cases and is the chief controlling revenue authority in the state.

The President of the Board is also the Chairman of the State Transport Authority.

#### Director of Land Records

The offices of the Director of Land Records existed at Gwalior both in the former Gwalior State and later in Madhya Bharat, as well as at present. The main functions of the Directorate of Land Records are to maintain records and statistics relating to all kinds of lands in the state and to collect and compile various types of data relating to agricultural economy. In this work, the Director is assisted by five Regional Deputy Directors, one of whom is stationed at Gwalior, his charge comprising the districts of Gwalior, Bhind, Morena, Shivpuri and Datia. A Statistician and other ancillary staff assist the Director at the headquarters while in the districts, Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents of Land Records. Revenue Inspectors and Patwaris carry out the work.

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1. Recently more members have been appointed on the Board on a temporary basis.



The Director of Land Records also functions as the Commissioner of Settlements, in which capacity he is responsible for carrying out all survey and settlement operations in the State. A Survey Officer, with other staff, is provided at the headquarters to assist him in this work. Further, the Director is responsible for carrying out the operations regarding consolidation of land holdings. An Officer of a Deputy Collector's rank, designated as Assistant Consolidation Commissioner, assists him at the headquarters. In the district where consolidation operations are carried on, Consolidation Officers and Inspectors have been provided. Besides, the Director has also been entrusted with the responsibility for executing schemes for settlement of landless families into colonies for which a Colonization Officer has been provided in his office.

There are two Training Schools at Gwalior, one for Revenue Inspectors and the other for Patwaris. These are under the administrative control of the Director of Land Records. The Patwaris Training School has been in existence since the regime of the rulers of the Gwalior State, while the other school was established in December 1955.

#### Transport Commissioner

A Transport Department, with the Transport Commissioner as the head of the department, was established for the first time in former Madhya Bharat in 1948-49. Later, he was assisted by an Assistant Transport Commissioner. The functions assigned to this department covered all the executive, administrative and revenue duties connected with the control, administration and legislation relating to private and Governmental bus services and vehicles in the State. Two Regional Transport Officers, one each for the Gwalior and Indore regions, assisted him in this work. Each of them also worked as Secretary to the respective Regional Transport Authority, constituted under the Motor Vehicles Act. The Transport Commissioner functioned as the General Manager of the Madhya Bharat Roadways until 1953-54 when the two posts were separated.

In reorganized State of Madhya Pradesh, the Transport Commissioner is assisted at the headquarters by two Deputy Transport Commissioners, one for administration and the other for enforcement. Under the existing set-up of this department, there is a Regional Transport Office at Gwalior under a Regional Transport Officer, who is also the Secretary of the Gwalior Regional Transport Authority. He is also the Taxation Officer and Registering and Licensing Authority under the Motor Vehicles Act for the districts of the Gwalior Revenue Division. He is assisted by a Regional Transport Inspector-cum-Inspector of Motor Vehicles and other staff.

Recently some important organizational changes have been introduced in this department. Although for purposes of the administration of the Motor Vehicles Act, the State is divided into seven regions corresponding to the revenue divisions, three single Member Regional Transport Authorities for all the seven transport regions have been appointed in place of the previous multi-member Regional Transport Authorities. One of these has been constituted at Gwalior.



A single Member Appellate Authority (of the rank of a District Judge) to hear appeals against the orders of the Regional Transport Authorities in the State has also been constituted with headquarters at Gwalior.

#### **Excise Commissioner**

The Excise Commissioner is the head of the department dealing with matters relating to state excise, prohibition, etc. He also functions as the Inspector General of Registration, Births and Deaths and Superintendent of Stamps.

In matters relating to excise and prohibition, he is assisted by two Deputy Commissioners and an Assistant Commissioner at the headquarters and four Regional Assistant Commissioners. A Prohibition Propagandist is also attached to his office for prohibition propaganda work in the State. At the district level, he is assisted by a District Excise Officer and other subordinate staff, who work under the overall supervision of the Collector.

On the registration side, the Inspector General is assisted by Inspectors of Registration offices, each in charge of a circle while the work in districts and tahsils is entrusted to District Registrars and Sub-Registrars, respectively.

#### **Inspector General of Municipalities**

An Inspectorate General of Municipalities existed in the former Gwalior State. This institution was continued in Madhya Bharat also. In the new State of Madhya Pradesh, this Inspectorate is functioning only in Madhya Bharat region. The Inspector General is assisted by three Assistant Inspectors General, one Enquiry Officer and 17 Inspectors. This Inspectorate exercises control and supervision over all the municipalities in the Madhya Bharat region except the Municipal Corporations of Gwalior and Indore and the city municipalities of Ujjain and Ratlam, which are directly under the control of the Government in the Local Government Department.<sup>1</sup>

#### **Examiner of Local Fund Audit Accounts**

In former Madhya Bharat, Gwalior was the headquarters of an Assistant Examiner of Local Fund Accounts. From 1957 the office of the Examiner of Local Fund Accounts for the State of Madhya Pradesh has also been located there. He is assisted by five Regional Assistant Examiners, one of whom is stationed at Gwalior. The main function of this organisation is to audit the accounts of the local bodies and other miscellaneous institutions.

### **UNION GOVERNMENT OFFICES**

The following offices of the Government of India are located at Gwalior. The set-up of these offices is briefly, as follows:—

#### **Office of the Accountant General, Madhya Pradesh**

The Accountant General is assisted by four Deputy Accountants General at the headquarters. There are also two branch offices of this office at Bhopal and Nagpur, each in the charge of a Deputy Accountant General. The other establishment of the Accountant General's Office includes Assistant Accounts Officers, Superintendents, Auditors, etc.

<sup>1</sup> This office has since been abolished by Local Govt. Notification dated 24th January 1962.



## GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

### Office of the Superintendent, Central Excise

This office is responsible for the collection of union excise duties within the districts of Gwalior, Morena, Datia, Shivpuri and Bhind. The Superintendent is assisted by Deputy Superintendents, Inspectors, Sub-Inspectors and Preventive Intelligence Inspectors.

### Income Tax Office

This office was established in 1950, following the introduction of income tax in former Madhya Bharat. The Gwalior Income Tax Circle comprises the districts of the Gwalior revenue division. It is staffed by four Income Tax Officers, Inspectors and other staff. They are responsible for the assessment and collection of income tax, wealth tax, expenditure tax and gift tax.

### Office of the National Sample Survey

This is range office of the Directorate of National Sample Survey, of data in different phases of economy, and (ii) organization of special and *ad hoc* Government of India. It is entrusted with (i) the collection and checking enquiries in various socio-economic fields. The office is headed by an Assistant Director, who is assisted by Investigators, Inspectors, Scrutiny Inspectors, Field Assistants, Statistical Supervisors, etc.

### Office of the Area Superintendent, Central Railways

The Scindia State Railway of the former Gwalior State was administered by the Madhya Bharat Government until 1950 when as a result of the Federal Financial Agreement reached between the Governments of India and Madhya Bharat, this railway was transferred to the Central Government. From that time the office of the Scindia State Railway was converted into that of the Area Superintendent, Central Railways and was placed under the jurisdiction of the Jhansi Division of the Central Railways, and this state continues.

### Office of the Superintendent of Post Offices

When the postal system of the former Gwalior State was taken over by the Madhya Bharat Government, Gwalior was made the headquarters of one of the Superintendents of Post Offices. In 1950 the Government of India took over the postal system, but the office of the Superintendent of Post Offices, continued to be located at Gwalior. He is responsible for the supervision of all posts, telegraph and public call offices (except the telegraph office at Gwalior) in the districts of Gwalior, Morena, Bhind and Shivpuri.

### Office of the Sub-Divisional Officer, Phones

The jurisdiction of this office covers the telephone line from Agra to Guna along the Bombay-Agra Road. The Sub-Divisional Officer is assisted by Engineering Supervisors and other technical and auxiliary staff.

### Office of the Deputy Central Intelligence Officer

A Deputy Central Intelligence Officer is posted at Gwalior, and works under the administrative control of the Central Intelligence Officer, Madhya Pradesh, who has his headquarters at Bhopal. He is assisted by an Inspector.



## CHAPTER X

### REVENUE ADMINISTRATION

The earliest authentic reference we have to a revenue assessment in the area now covered by Gwalior district is in the 16th century. According to the *Ain-i-Akbari*, the measured lands in the then Gwalior *Sarkar* (district) were 11,46,465 *bighas*, 6 *biswas* while the revenue demand of the *Sarkar* was 29,683-649 *dams* in money.<sup>1</sup> This suggests that during the reign of Akbar (1542-1605) Todar Mal's system of land revenue settlement was extended to the Gwalior district of those times.<sup>2</sup> Under this system, all the land was first measured by a uniform standard and the average produce of a *bigha* of land was ascertained. Land was classified into four categories according to soil and fertility, and the gross produce was calculated on the basis of the produce grown during the preceding ten years. The average gross produce thus obtained for any particular piece of land was then commuted into cash on the basis of prices prevailing in the previous 19 years, and one-third of this amount was fixed as the king's share or rent. The assessment so made was intended to be continued for a period of 10 years, but actually it continued indefinitely in the absence of regular revisions.<sup>3</sup> The annual fixed rent had to be paid directly by the cultivators to the revenue collectors, but if the village headman was required to assist the authorities in collecting the full rental, he was allowed a certain commission for his services. The important revenue officer was the *Amil* or *Karori*, who supervised the village collections of his district.<sup>4</sup> The other revenue officers were the *Kanugo*, *Chaudhari*, *Patwari*, etc.

Under the Mughuls, the land was apportioned into *Khalsa* and *Jagir* lands. The former was divided into charges and managed by *Amils* and other State officials, as described above. The rest was divided into blocks, or estates which were made over for life (the grants became hereditary at a later stage) to certain military commanders, ministers and courtiers, who utilised the revenue for their own needs and for the upkeep of a military force which they were required to maintain.<sup>5</sup>

Consequent on the dissolution of the Mughul central power during the early part of the eighteenth century and the growing independence of the imperial *Subas* and other officials, Todar Mal's revenue system fell into decay. By the time the Maratha invasion of the Malwa province took place, the *Khalsa* lands were held on *Ijaredari* or farm system.<sup>6</sup> Under this system, each village, *pargana* or an entire district was farmed out, and for the collection of its revenue (which, besides land revenue, included other cesses), a person of status was assigned the

1. *Ain-i-Akbari*, Tr. by Jarrett, Vol. II, p. 198.
2. *Gwalior State Gazetteer*, p. 98.
3. Report of Taxation Enquiry Commission, Vol. III, pp. 181-82.
4. Baden Powell, *Land System of British India*, Vol. I, p. 256.
5. *ibid*, p. 257.
6. *Gwalior State Gazetteer*, p. 98.



whole area or a part of it, for a period ranging between three to ten years. The farmer, generally known as *Ijaredar*, was left free to make arrangements for the cultivation, etc., of the lands and for the recovery of the revenue, provided that he credited the Government demand on the due dates according to the terms of the lease. The *Ijaredar* was not required to furnish to Government a detailed account of the recoveries made by him nor was any Government official posted in the pargana to supervise his work. He could, therefore, manage the land leased to him as he liked, and generally he lent money at exorbitant rates of interest and often acted as a merchant-banker, who stood surety for the payment of Government demand and made occasional advances of grain or money to the cultivators. In this way, the *Ijaredar* could squeeze as much money out of the cultivators as possible.

During the early part of the administration of the Council of Regency, which was set up after the death of Maharaja Jankoji Rao (1827-1843), the *Ijaredari* system gradually went into disuse, its place being taken by the zamindari system.<sup>1</sup> Henceforth, the land management of big villages was given on contract to land-holders. They were not only required to credit annually the Government demand, but were also required to furnish a rough account of the recoveries made from the cultivators. Lands cultivated by the contractors (*khud kasht*) were not assessed, with the result that for the reforms and reclamations expected of them they could exploit any channel of profiteering after meeting the Government demand. On the expiry of the period of a particular lease, it was given to the same holders as far as possible. The assessment of land under the *Ijaredari* system was not high, the proportion assigned to the State being as a rule ranging from one-half to two-fifth of the produce or in some cases as low as one fourth. But the cesses and dues levied, both ordinary and extraordinary, in those times, more than offset this moderate assessment.<sup>2</sup>

The *Ijaredari* system was finally abolished in 1853 during the administration of minister Dinkar Rao. He took the first step towards a proper settlement of the land revenue. The persons, who had been previously given leases, were made zamindars. The first zamindari settlement was effected in the State on *patta-bandi* system in the same year and leases of villages were granted for 12 years. Between 1853 and 1883 three more settlements were made in the State. The settlement of 1870-71, when seven districts, including the district of Gwalior-Gird, were settled for a term of 25 years, was noteworthy.<sup>3</sup> This settlement was on the village system and the assessment was based on the annual reports of village patwaris of the actual collection made by lease holders during the preceding 10 years. The deed of lease required its holder to sub-let his lands equitably to cultivators, to keep the people satisfied, to prevent robbers or dacoits from settling in the village, "to prohibit the practices of *Suttee* and female infanticide and to report at once an occurrence of this nature."<sup>4</sup> Nevertheless, these settlements were imperfect in as much as there was no regular

1. Madhya Bharat Zamindari Samapti Report, 1949, pp. 9-10.

2. Gwalior State Gazetteer, p. 99.

3. Report on the Administration of Central India Agency, 1871-72, p. V.

4. *Ibid.*



survey, no field map, no record of rights, no soil classification, no determined soil rate, etc. In most cases the Government demand was fixed in consultation with the *Lambardars* and Chaudhari Kanungos. The general opinion about the assessment was that it was severe and that the lease holders would not be able to meet the Government demand.<sup>1</sup> In the district of Gwalior-Gird in particular, the settlement fell unequally on the people and required considerable stress of authority to enforce it. As the Central India Agency Report for 1886-87 says :—

“There was no proper system of collection, no consideration was given to the cultivating classes, no control was exercised over the zamindars and powerful land-holders; rents were collected with the utmost severity and without regard to the vicissitudes of bad seasons, short crops and a dwindling population. He was considered the best district official who contrived to squeeze the largest amount of revenue out of the cultivators; the result was that in many of the districts, notably in the northern and northern-eastern parganas of Gwalior, villages which were formerly populous and well cultivated, are now deserted and their lands lying waste, and the revenue has decreased more than 25 per cent on the receipt of the previous 15 or 25 years.”<sup>2</sup>

To remedy this state of affairs the Council of Regency which had been set-up after Jayaji Rao's death, undertook fresh survey and settlement operations throughout the State. In 1887 the survey and settlement of three districts including the Gwalior-Gird district, was commenced under the supervision of a State official who was designated as Settlement Commissioner. Meanwhile, in 1889-90, a scheme was also drawn up by the Council of Regency for the introduction of an improved system of survey and record by patwaris, who were to be trained for maintaining records and maps necessary for future revenue settlements. To execute this scheme a Land Records Department, with Colonel D. G. Pitcher, as Director of Land Records, was established in November 1890. At the same time, it was also decided that pending the organisation and training of patwaris, the other districts should be summarily settled for a short period, for which two more Settlement Commissioners were appointed in the same year.

The survey and settlement operations of the three districts, which were conducted since 1887 were, however, found unsatisfactory, while the summary settlements of the other districts were too elaborate and expensive. Therefore, in 1892-93 these operations were discontinued and the entire task of completing the survey and settlement operations was made over to one single agency, viz, the newly created Land Records Department.<sup>3</sup> Among the tahsils taken up for these operations under this arrangement was the Bhandar tahsil (then a tahsil of the former Bhandar district) where the settlement made under the British

1. Report on the Administration of Central India Agency, 1871-72, p. v.

2. *ibid*, 1886-87, p. 119.

3. *ibid*, 1892-93, pp. 2 and 13.



rule had expired in about 1885.<sup>1</sup> Resettlement operations were also commenced in the Gwalior-Gird district, which had been settled in 1870-71 in Gwalior rupees. These operations were completed by 1898. While the term of settlement of the Bhandar tahsil was fixed at 20 years, that of the Gwalior-Gird district was fixed at seven years. The table below shows the area covered and the amount of land revenue assessed at this settlement :—

Name of Tahsil	No. of Villages	Amount of Land Revenue (Rs.)
(1)	(2)	(3)
Gird .. .. .	177	1,45,078
Pichhore .. .. .	203	2,43,376
Bhandar .. .. .	135	2,31,356
Ghatigaon .. .. .	144	1,49,614
	Total ..	7,69,424

Source: Tahsil Settlement Reports, 1940.

This settlement was more equitable than those made earlier, since the method of assessment followed at this time was broadly similar to what was being adopted in British India at that time. A cadastral survey was carried out by the patwaris and other revenue officials, who were trained in a special school. Field registers, village records and records of rights were drawn up. There were, however, no soil classification, assessment circles or registers of proprietors' holding.<sup>2</sup> The rates were based on the quality of soil and local conditions such as rainfall, facility for irrigation, export of produce and the class of cultivators. No regular Settlement Reports were issued for the different districts on this occasion.<sup>3</sup>

The revision of the settlement in the Gwalior-Gird district (excepting the Bhandar tahsil which had by 1903 become a part of this district) was to have been undertaken in 1904. But on account of the famine of 1899-1900 and successive indifferent years, culminating in another famine in 1905, the work was postponed from time to time until 1908 when new settlement operations were commenced in the district. The work was placed under a Divisional Settlement Officer who was assisted by an Assistant Settlement Officer in the district. The sub-ordinate officials were by then trained in the classification of soils and other matters connected with settlement. The work was taken tahsilwise and the whole operation including the preparation of rent-rate and assessment reports for the tahsils of Gird, Masura and Pichhore was concluded by 1912.<sup>4</sup> The new assessment was, however, not introduced until 1913. This was the first settlement in the district which was conducted on scientific principles. Its term was fixed at 20 years.

An important achievement of this settlement was the revision and adjustment of the revenue and rental demand according to the economic condition

1. Report on the Administration of Central India Agency, 1896-97, p. 17.

2. Gwalior Today, pp. 86-94.

3. Gwalior State Gazetteer, p. 99.

4. Report on the Administration of the Gwalior State, 1912-13, p. 38.



of the peasantry who had been impoverished by the famines of 1899 and 1905. Though normally the main object of sanctioning a revision of settlement is the financial gain that is likely to accrue to the State, this was not the case in this settlement. The policy of the Government being to secure the equalisation of the burden of the Government demand, efforts were made to give away where the demand was considered excessive and to levy more where it was considered to have been below the mark.<sup>1</sup> Accordingly the settlement operations in the district (excluding the Bhandar tahsil) resulted in a reduction of land revenue. Against the expiring demand of Rs. 5,38,068 the new demand was fixed at Rs. 4,43,597 as shown in the table below:—

Name of Tahsil	Previous Settlement		Settlement of 1908-12	
	No. of Villages Settled	Amount of Land Revenue Assessed (in Rs.)	No. of Villages Settled	Amount of Land Revenue Assessed (in Rs.)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Gird — — —	177	1,45,078	203	1,37,184
Pichhore — — —	203	2,43,376	219	1,73,730
Mastura (Ghatigaon) .. ..	144	1,49,614	174	1,32,683
Total ..		5,38,068		4,43,597

Source.—Tahsil Settlement Reports and Commissioner of Settlements.

Another important achievement was the preparation of a reliable record of rights such as village map, *Khasra*, *Jamabandi*, the *Wazib-ul-Arz*, statement of zamindars, with their respective shares in the profits and liabilities in the village and the like, which was done after proper attestation, verification and check.

The general principles of settlement were later laid down in the Settlement Manual which was brought into force from 1911.<sup>2</sup> The resettlement of the Bhandar tahsil was taken up in 1916 and completed in 1918. This settlement slightly enhanced the land revenue of the tahsil from Rs. 2,31,356 of the previous assessment to Rs. 2,40,445 and the term of the settlement was fixed at 22 years.<sup>3</sup>

The revision of the assessment made in the twenty-year settlement of the tahsils of Gird, Mastura and Pichhore which expired in 1930, was not immediately undertaken because of the economic depression that prevailed in the thirties. The survey work in these tahsils was, however, taken in hand from 1st April 1932 and was completed during 1932-33. The settlement operations were resumed in these tahsils during 1939 and 1940 and the entire work including the sanction of the new assessments was completed by 1944. The revisional settlement in the Bhandar tahsil was commenced in 1942 and completed during

1. Report on the Administration of the Gwalior State, 1916-17, p. 52.

2. *ibid*, 1911-12, p. 40.

3. Bhandar Settlement Report.



1945-46. The term of all these settlements was fixed at 30 years. The land revenue demand sanctioned as a result of these settlements is indicated in the following table:—

Name of tahsil	Previous Settlement			New Settlement		
	No. of villages settled	Total average annual proceeds (Rs.)	Amount of land revenue (Rs.)	No. of villages settled	Total average annual proceeds (Rs.)	Amount of land revenue (Rs.)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Gird .. ..	203	2,11,037	1,37,184	216	2,27,419	1,54,001
Pichlore .. ..	219	2,89,382	1,73,730	237	3,70,969	240,824
Ghatigaon .. ..	174	2,11,965	1,32,683	165	2,16,133	1,40,428
Bhander .. ..	135	3,70,655	2,40,445	135	3,77,772	2,46,031
		Total ..	6,84,042			7,81,284

Source.—Tahsil Settlement Reports and Commissioner of Settlement.

It will be seen from this table that the land revenue demand fixed at this settlement was nearly 65 per cent of the total average annual proceeds of the villages in the district, the remaining being the zamindars' share.

**Land Tenures.**—Land tenures during the Sindhia regime may be classified under three heads, viz., (1) Guaranteed estates or jagirs, (2) State Jagirs, which were sub-divided into *Istimirari*, *Tankedari*, *Ubari*, *Muafidari*, etc., and (3) Zamindari.

The first category of estates were those which were granted mostly to Rajput chiefs by pre-Maratha rulers and which were continued as such under the rule of the Sindhias, first under a guarantee from the British Government and from 1921 under the suzerainty of the Gwalior Government.<sup>1</sup> The State Jagirs were held directly from the Sindhia Government. Their holders were either members or relations of the ruling family, or officials of standing and men whose families had served the State with distinction. They were classed as *Sardars* of the first and second grade.<sup>2</sup>

An *Istimirari* meant a grant in consideration of the grantee paying to the Government, a fixed amount or a fixed proportion of his income from the grant. A *Tankedar* meant a person who, in consideration of his holding a village or piece of land, paid to the Government a fixed proportion of the income arising from the grant as tribute. Likewise, an *Ubaridar* paid to the Government a fixed

1. Gwalior Today, p. 16.

2. Gwalior State Gazetteer, pp. 102-03.



amount or a fixed proportion of the income from his holding and was entitled to enjoy the balance.<sup>1</sup> The *Muafidars* paid no revenue, *tanka* or other dues on their holdings. They fell under two main classes, *viz.*, holders of entire tahsils or villages and holders of plots. *Muafis* were also classified as *Dewasthan* or *dharamada* for the upkeep of temples and other religious institutions, and *padarakh* for the support of Brahmins and religious teachers.<sup>2</sup>

A considerable number of *Istimrari* holdings, the *sanads* for which were found to be defective, were resumed and turned into *Khalsa*. In order to avoid hardship to this class of holders the Government announced a 'New Policy' (*Jadid Usul*), under which such jagirs were restored to the holders on *status quo-ante* subject to the condition that at each succession, the villages would be surveyed by way of revision and the total assessment computed, one-half of which was to be the rent payable by the *Istimrardar* to the Government.<sup>3</sup>

On the eve of the formation of Madhya Bharat, the jagirs in the Gwalior district comprised 100 villages, representing an area of 1,57,516 acres, with a population of 37,061. The tahsilwise position is shown in the table below:—

Name of tahsil	No. of jagir villages	Area in acres	Population
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1. Gwalior .. .. .	28	50,614	9,537
2. Pichhore .. .. .	71	1,05,373	27,261
3. Bhandar .. .. .	1	1,529	263
Total .. .. .	100	1,57,516	37,061

Source.—Collector, Gwalior.

The jagir areas were administered by the Jagirdars, some of whom were even granted revenue, judicial and police powers. Where, however, the holder of a jagir was a minor or widow or had been found guilty of gross mismanagement, disobedience and the like, the jagir was placed under the department of Court of Wards. This department owed its origin to the *Mahkma Sadar Supradanti* which was created in 1881, the name "Court of Wards" being given to it in 1895.

In order to bring about an improvement in the administration of the jagirs managed by the Jagirdars, a separate department was set up in 1908, headed by an officer known as *Muntazim Jagirdaran*.<sup>4</sup> He had two sub-offices, one at Ujjain and the other at Shivpuri. The jagirs in Gwalior district came under the latter sub-office. Subsequently, in 1937-38 the department of Court of Wards was amalgamated with the department of *Muntazim Jagirdaran* with the latter as

1. Manual for Jagirdars, p. 5.

2. Gwalior State Gazetteer, p. 103.

3. Report on the Administration of the Gwalior State, 1909-10, p. 5.

4. *ibid.* 1908-09, p. VII.



the head of the department for both the Jagirs and Court of Wards branches.<sup>1</sup> This set-up continued until the State's merger in Madhya Bharat.

A record of the rights, honours and privileges of each Jagirdar was contained in an official compilation called *Tarikh Jagirdaran* (History of Jagirdars) which was published in 1913. Another compilation named *Qawaid Jagirdaran* (Manual for Jagirdars) was enacted in the following year which was a codified law for regulating the relations between the Government and the Jagirdars.

To ensure a proper land revenue system in the jagir areas, regular survey and settlement operations were undertaken in those areas in the beginning of the present century. The settlement of *Jadid Usul* jagirs and of those jagirs whose annual income did not exceed Rs. 5,000 was done by the Settlement Department at Government expense.<sup>2</sup> The other Jagirdars were expected to carry out the settlement operations themselves. By about 1940-41, survey and settlement operations in almost all jagir areas were completed along with the settlement of *Khalsa* territory.<sup>3</sup>

Linked up with the question of settlement was the matter of *Patta bandi* (grant of leases to cultivators) in jagir areas. Here the problem was that Jagirdars often granted *pattas* not according to the settlement or only on short term, although the Jagir Department repeatedly impressed upon them the necessity of complying with the provisions of the revenue laws in this behalf. The result was that soon after responsible Government was introduced in the State, the revenue powers of the Jagirdars, along with their judicial powers, were withdrawn in May 1948.<sup>4</sup>

After the formation of Madhya Bharat the Jagir Courts and Revenue Powers and Police Ordinance (No. 19 of 1948) was promulgated which was later replaced by an Act of the legislature. Similarly the Jagir Land Records Management Ordinance (No. 21 of 1948) was promulgated under which the maintenance of record of rights in jagir areas was taken over by the State and arrangements were made for the appointment of *patwaris* and preparation of records through the *tahsil*.<sup>5</sup> At the same time, in pursuance of the general policy of abolition of intermediaries between the State and the actual tiller of the soil, the Government of India appointed in August 1949, a Committee known as 'The Rajasthan-Madhya Bharat Jagir Enquiry Committee' for examining the question of abolition of the jagirdari system in the States of Rajasthan and Madhya Bharat.<sup>6</sup> In accordance with the recommendations of this Committee, the M.B. Abolition of Jagirs Act, 1951 (Act No. 28 of 1951), was enacted and brought into force from 7th December, 1951. The implementation of this measure was

1. Report on the Administration of the Gwalior State, 1937-38, p. 9.
2. *ibid*, 1940-41 p. 155.
3. *ibid*, p. 156.
4. Madhya Bharat Bhusudhar Samiti ki Report, 1956, p. 11.
5. Report on the Administration of Madhya Bharat, 1948-49, p. 96.
6. Madhya Bharat Rajaswa Vyavastha Ki Pragati Par Ek Drishti, 1948-54, p. 5.



delayed because some Jagirdars filed a writ petition in the High Court and got an injunction order. The High Court rejected the petition on 4th December 1952 and the State Government issued a notification on the same day resuming the jagir lands. But this could not be acted upon as some Jagirdars filed an appeal in the Supreme Court, and that Court passed an order staying further action in pursuance of the notification. Meanwhile a stalemate had resulted since after the passing of the Abolition of Jagirs Act, the Jagirdars on the one hand, while on the other hand the Government could not collect land revenue in jagir areas in the face of the Supreme Court's stay order. An agreement was later reached between the Government and the Jagirdars' Association by which revenue officials were asked, by the Jagirdars to collect revenue in jagir areas and the amount of revenue so collected was to be paid to them as advance compensation after deducting *tanka* and collection charges at the rate of nine per cent.<sup>1</sup>

On the 2nd February 1954, the Supreme Court dismissed the appeal and thereafter the implementation of the Act was taken in hand.<sup>2</sup> The jagirs thus stood resumed from the 4th December 1952. The consequences of resumption were that all rights of Jagirdars in jagir lands, etc., vested in the State free from all encumbrances. They were, however, allowed to remain in possession of lands cultivated personally by them enjoying the same rights as an occupant has in *ryotwari* land. The Jagirdars' right to recover and levy cesses was abolished and the cultivators made directly liable for the payment of land revenue or rent that they used to pay to the Jagirdars. The Act also made provision for the payment of compensation to the Jagirdars for the loss of their rights.

### The Zamindari System

The *Khalsa* villages were held in proprietary rights by zamindars for a term of years agreed on at the time of settlement. Zamindari tenures were sub-divided into zamindari single and zamindari *pattidari*. In the tenure of the zamindari single class, a village was held by one person and in zamindari *pattidari* jointly by two or more persons. In the *pattidari* villages one person was elected from amongst the co-sharers to represent them in all public matters, called *Nambardar*. He was responsible to the Government for the punctual payment of the revenue, proper distribution of profit amongst the co-sharers, etc. He was paid for his services at a certain rate notified at the time of assessment.<sup>3</sup>

In single zamindari villages the *Nambardars*, and in *pattidari* villages the *Pattidars*, collected the revenue from cultivators after the latter had sold the produce of their harvests and, out of these collections, paid the State demand and dues into the treasury. The zamindars were classed as ordinary and occu-

1. Report on the Administration of Madhya Bharat, 1952-53, p. 18.

2. *ibid*, p. 17; 1953-54, p. 20.

3. Gwalior State Gazetteer, pp. 103-04.



pancy. Those possessing occupancy rights had no right to alienate the holding, and the land passed to their heirs. When no occupancy right existed, the land could be given to any person, but in practice land very seldom failed to pass from father to son whether actual occupancy rights were conceded or not.

The zamindars enjoyed several rights and privileges and were bound by certain obligations, which were embodied in the *Qanoon Mal* (Land Revenue Code) and the Zamindari Manual. These were brought into force from 1904.<sup>1</sup> Up to 1898 no zamindar could sell or mortgage his land. Proprietary rights including powers of sale and mortgage were first granted to him in that year under certain conditions. Thereafter a zamindar, who had been granted proprietary rights, could transfer his land either to another zamindar or, in very special cases, to another person. In no case, however, could such transfer be made to any person who was not a subject of the Gwalior State.<sup>2</sup>

The zamindari was heritable by heirs of any degree and by adopted heirs according to the caste law of succession and was also partible. It was not liable to attachment, sequestration or sale by the State except under the processes of the law, especially when there was a deliberate evasion or default in the payment of the State dues. If it became necessary to attach a zamindari, an effort was made to find someone, preferably a sub-share holder or tenant in the same village to take over the village in *sipurdagi* for the rest of the settlement term with an option to the zamindar to regain the village at the end of the settlement. Failing *sipurdagi* the next step was to auction the village, but if the auction did not fetch at least 4/5th of the land revenue, the village was taken under departmental management (*Kham*), in which case again the zamindar was free to take back the village under certain conditions. It was only when all these alternatives failed that the zamindari was lost for ever, in favour of the *Sipurdagi-dar* on his paying *nazarana*. The zamindar could, however, continue to hold his *Khud kash* lands under the ex-proprietary tenure, which carried an exemption of two annas in the rupee in rent. If the village had been taken under departmental management (*Kham*) it lapsed to the State.<sup>3</sup>

A *Sajawal*, who was a paid servant of the state, was put in charge of a *Kham* village. The annual revenue demand from *Kham* villages in the district during 1911-12 to 1917 was between Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 49,000.<sup>4</sup> Since the management of *Kham* villages did not work satisfactorily, the *ryotwari* system was introduced in these villages under the Ryotwari Act of 1917 and by the year 1925 there were no *Kham* villages left in the district.

No land could be acquired compulsorily in zamindari or *ryotwari* villages by the State except for public purposes under the Land Acquisition Act on payment of compensation.

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1. Report on the Administration of the Gwalior State, 1904-05, p. II.
  2. Gwalior State Gazetteer, p. 104.
  3. Report on the Administration of the Gwalior State, 1917-18, p. 73.
  4. *ibid.*



It has been stated earlier that nearly one-third of the total average annual proceeds of a village in the State went as the zamindar's share of profit. Moreover, any increase in income accruing in a village during the currency of a settlement, from the extension of cultivation or from enhancements of rents permissible under the law, went wholly into the pocket of the zamindar with a rebate of 10 per cent on the net increase of cultivation during the next settlement.<sup>1</sup>

With a view to augmenting the income of the State, a conference consisting of all Ministers, Heads of Departments and Collectors was held by Government in January 1945 and a resolution was passed recommending the replacement of the zamindari system by the *ryotwari* system. Later, a similar demand was voiced in the Praja Sabha and Raj Sabha of the Gwalior State. In pursuance of this, Government appointed a Committee in March 1948 to go into the question of abolition of the zamindari system, but before the Committee could make any progress in its work, in June 1948, the Gwalior State, along with others, was amalgamated to form the State of Madhya Bharat.

The idea of eliminating the intermediaries between the State and the tiller of the soil was pursued by the Madhya Bharat Government which appointed another Committee in January 1949 with this object. The Committee submitted its report in November 1949, one of its recommendations being the abolition of the zamindari system. This recommendation was accepted and the Madhya Bharat Zamindari Abolition Act (Act No. 13 of 1951) was enacted and brought into force from the 25th June, 1951. The Act provided, among other things, for the abolition and acquisition by the State from the 2nd October, 1951 of the rights of the proprietors in villages, settled on the zamindari system, free from all encumbrances. A notification was issued on the 3rd September, 1951, whereby all proprietary rights in all villages other than jagir, *muafi* and *ryotwari* villages, passed to and vested in the State.

The zamindars, however, challenged the validity of the Act in the Madhya Bharat High Court and as a result of an inter-locutory order passed by the Court the process of taking physical possession of property vested in the State was stayed. The Act was later up-held and the stay order vacated on the 3rd December 1951 after which the work regarding implementation of the Act was resumed. All zamindari villages having stood vested in the State from the 2nd October 1951, all unoccupied lands therein were taken over by the Collector.

The ex-proprietors were, however, allowed to retain possession of lands under their personal cultivation (*Khud kash*) under plot proprietary rights and payment of land revenue assessed thereon. Under the Act, the Government was also required to pay to every proprietor, who was divested of proprietary rights, compensation in accordance with certain principles with a proviso that if the amount of compensation was not determined within six months from the date of vesting, an interim payment was to be made equal to 1/10th of the

1. Report on the Administration of the Gwalior State, 1917-18, p. 70.



estimated amount of compensation. A provision was also made in the Act for the payment of rehabilitation grants to zamindars who earned their livelihood wholly or mainly from agriculture and who paid annual land revenue not exceeding Rs. 3,500.<sup>1</sup>

For the implementation of the Zamindari Abolition Act, a separate department known as the Land Reforms Department was organised in 1951 with the Land Reforms Commissioner as the Head of the Department. The scope of this department was confined to:—

- (1) Determination and allocation of compensation,
- (2) Assessment of *Khud kasht* land, etc., held by ex-proprietors,
- (3) Adjudication of claims against the proprietors and determination of title to land, and
- (4) Determination of rehabilitation grants to zamindars.<sup>2</sup>

At the district and tahsil level, Compensation Officers and Deputy Compensation Officers respectively were appointed for determining the amount of compensation to ex-zamindars. Claim officers were appointed for the adjudication of secured debts or claims owed by ex-zamindars. The work of assessment of land revenue in tahsils was entrusted to patwaris, for the supervision of whose task *Girdawars* and *Muharrirs* were appointed under the Land Reforms Department.<sup>3</sup>

A Jagir Commissioner was appointed for the implementation of the Abolition of Jagirs Act, 1951. Under him were appointed Assistant Compensation Officers at the headquarters of each district. They worked under the supervision of the Collector.

The table below shows the amount of compensation which was payable to the ex-proprietors in the district for the loss of their rights and which has been paid to them up to the 31st December, 1960 :—

Category of ex-proprietor						Amount of compensation payable	Amount of compensation paid upto 3-12-60
(1)						(2)	(3)
						Rs.	Rs.
Zamindars	..	..	..	..	..	48,01,614	38,44,114
Jagirdars	..	..	..	..	..	11,21,279	8,14,964

An amount of Rs. 21,49,515 was payable to the zamindars as rehabilitation grant, out of which a sum of Rs. 18,57,812 has been paid to them up to the 31st December, 1960.

1. Madhya Bharat Zamindari Abolition Act, 1951, Chapter VII.
2. Report on the Administration of Madhya Bharat, 1953-54, p. 20.
3. Madhya Bharat Bhusudhar Samiti Ki Report, 1956, pp. 2-3.



The Land Reforms Department was abolished in 1958 as the work connected with the implementation of the Acts had considerably decreased. The powers of the Land Reforms and Jagir Commissioners have been delegated to the Commissioners of divisions while those of the Compensation and Deputy Compensation Officers have been delegated to the Collectors and Tahsildars respectively.

The Madhya Bharat Land Revenue and Tenancy Act, 1950, was made applicable in the Jagir and Zamindari villages, and a patel was appointed in each village to collect and pay land revenue into Government treasury. The additional income under land revenue which has accrued in the district as a result of the abolition of zamindari and jagirdari systems can be seen in the following table:—

Annual demand during five years of pre-abolition period		Annual demand in post abolition period	
Year	Rs.	Year	Rs.
1946-47	6,62,015	1951-52	13,36,784
1947-48	6,67,670	1952-53	13,69,532
1948-49	7,02,649	1953-54	19,49,744
1949-50	7,17,295	1954-55	19,49,171
1950-51	7,28,415	1955-56	18,19,279
		1956-57	18,04,447
		1957-58	17,31,773
		1958-59	17,99,987
		1959-60	18,07,378

The table below shows the amount of land which has vested in the State in the district as a result of the abolition of the Zamindari and Jagirdari systems:—

				(in acres)
		Cultivable	Fallow	
Zamindari	..	1,04,079-029	4,22,861-573	
Ryotwari	..	3,577-966	32,519-111	
Jagirdari	..	35,013-945	41,219-215	

Source.—Collector, Gwalior.

## PRESENT SYSTEM OF SURVEY, ASSESSMENT AND COLLECTION OF LAND REVENUE

The thirty-year settlements effected in the district in the forties are still in force and hence no fresh survey operations have been undertaken. For this reason, the whole class of tenants and the outgoing intermediaries in respect of lands settled with them, continue to pay the existing rates of rent and assessment.



4. Report on the Administration of the Gwalior State, 1941-42, p. 16.



### Income from Land Revenue and Special Cesses

Until the beginning of the present century, a certain rebate on the actual assessed revenue was made in the case of each village. The rebate known as *gaonti kharch* was utilised to cover the cost of *nazars* paid to State officials, charitable grants to temples, expenses at festivals and the like. Later the Government abolished this institution and also stopped the payment of *bhets* (due to *Chaudharis* and *Kanungos*) which used to be levied as a percentage on the collected revenue varying from one to four percent per annum. Instead these officials started receiving salaries from the State in lieu of the dues. Formerly the land revenue, that was collected, covered all cesses and under the terms of the lease the State could not make any extra levy. But after the State's merger in Madhya Bharat, a Panchayat cess at the rate of half an anna in the rupee of land revenue was realised along with the land revenue under the Madhya Bharat Panchayat Act, 1949 and was subsequently paid to the Panchayats in the district. This is continuing in Madhya Pradesh also. The annual income from land revenue in the district from 1930-31 to 1960-61 is given at table in Appendix XVII.

### Tenancy Reform

In former Gwalior State there were two classes of tenants in zamindari areas, viz., (1) *maurusi* or occupancy tenants and (2) *gair maurusi* or tenants-at-will<sup>1</sup>. Although the State had no direct financial relationship with the tenants, they were not entirely left to the tender mercies of the zamindars. To regulate the relations between the zamindars and tenants, a codified law under the title *Qanoon Mal* (Land Revenue Code), had been brought into force from 1904. It not only conferred valuable rights on tenants but also contained provisions for protecting them against arbitrary ejectment, rack-renting and other harassment.<sup>2</sup> The rent payable by an occupancy tenant was fixed by the Settlement Department at each settlement and one lease for the whole term of settlement was given to each tenant. The rent could not be enhanced except by an order of a competent revenue court on specific grounds and no occupancy tenant could be ejected, except for default in payment of rent, without the court's order. Further, the occupancy right was made heritable. The rent, if unpaid, could be recovered by the zamindar only by prosecuting the debtor in a revenue court and obtaining and enforcing its decree.

In the case of a tenant-at-will, *patta* and *kabooliyat* were compulsory as without them the zamindar could not sue him for rent or ejectment. When the *patta* and *kabooliyat* were executed, each party was bound to conform to their terms. A tenant-at-will could acquire an occupancy right in one or more of the following ways:—

(a) Continuous occupancy of 12 years;

(b) If the tenant sunk and constructed any well or bund in his fields or restored defunct well or bund, he could become occupancy in respect of all land irrigated from the well;

1. Report on the Administration of the Gwalior State, 1917-18, p. 70.

2. Gwalior To-day, pp. 86-94.



- (c) If he broke virgin or fallow land longer than three years he could get occupancy in respect of all such land from the beginning.<sup>1</sup>

Apart from the provisions of the *Qanoon Mal*, certain other measures were undertaken from time to time to afford relief to the peasants, such as the remission of some petty cesses. Notable amongst these was the system of *bayai* (a cess payable by a tenant in a bazaar on a transaction in foodgrains), the abolition of which was ordered by the Government in 1914-15.<sup>2</sup> The *Qanoon Mal* was revised in 1927 and the revised code was brought into force from the 1st July 1927. It marked a considerable improvement upon the previous one. The most important change was the conferral of full proprietary rights on occupancy tenants in respect of their holding.<sup>3</sup> Further, it gave increased facilities to tenants-at-will for attaining occupancy status. When the agriculturists were hard hit due to the failure of crops or other reasons, the State used to grant suspension or remission of land revenue. Under the revised Code, the process regarding revenue collection in normal years and suspension and remission of revenue demand in lean years was simplified and liberalized so as to render ejectment for default a rare occurrence.<sup>4</sup>

Owing to trade depression and slump in the grain market during the thirties the income of agriculturists was seriously affected. Besides suspending re-settlement operations, the Government appointed a Rent and Revenue Relief Committee to find out what relief by way of remissions was necessary to meet the emergency, and on the recommendations of the Committee sanctioned liberal remissions in land revenue.

The revision of the *Qanoon Mal* was again taken up and certain amendments were made into it in 1948 and the revised *Qanoon Mal* was allowed to continue in force in the former Gwalior State after the formation of Madhya Bharat. One of the amendments prohibited the eviction of non-occupancy and sub-tenants except in the circumstances in which an occupancy tenant could be evicted.<sup>5</sup> This, coupled with the anticipated land tenure reforms, prompted some of the zamindars to dispossess non-occupancy tenants and sub-tenants up to a prescribed limit, as a result of which the relations between the zamindars and the tenants became strained. To meet this situation, the Government enacted the Zamindari Management Act, which was brought into effect from the 30th July 1949. It provided for the taking over by the Government of a zamindari about which there were large-scale complaints of illegal ejectments and other acts of high handedness.<sup>6</sup>

The M. B. Zamindari Abolition Act of 1951, besides abolishing the zamindari system, also aimed at giving greater security and additional rights to

1. Report on the Administration of the Gwalior State, 1917-18, p. 70.

2. *ibid.*, 1914-15, p. 34.

3. *ibid.*, 1926-27, p. 1.

4. *ibid.*, p. 2.

5. M. B. Revenue Department File No. 25/1950, p. 81.



the tenants. For instance, every tenant of the ex-zamindar became an occupancy tenant of the land comprised in his holding from the date of vesting. Even a sub-tenant or tenant of a sub-tenant could acquire occupancy rights under specific conditions.<sup>1</sup> It was found after the abolition of the zamindari system that in some cases rents charged from tenants were in excess of the rates fixed in the current settlement. An amendment was, therefore, issued to the Zamindari Abolition Act, in 1954, according to which rent at the village rate assessed in the current settlement was to be charged from every tenant.

In the jagir areas, the *ryotwari* system was predominant. In the *ryotwari* tracts, the tenants' rights broadly fell into the following two classes:—

(1) *Pukhta mauzusi* or *Malkana hak* holder who had heritable as well as unrestricted rights of transferring a part or whole of his holding by sale or mortgage and sometimes even by bequest or gift.

(2) *Mamuli mauzusi* or *pattedar* peasant who enjoyed heritable rights but whose heritable rights were hedged round by restrictions.

The number of persons falling in the first category was small, while the bulk of the peasants belonged to the second category. This class of tenant could not transfer his land without the permission of Government or the assignee of the village.<sup>2</sup>

In order to prevent the harassment of tenants by Jagirdars and protect their rights against forcible ejection, the Jagir Tenants' Land Restoration Act, 1949, was enacted to enable the tenants to reacquire their dispossessed lands. Attempts were also made by the Government to rationalize the land revenue and tenancy laws in the *ryotwari* villages. For this purpose the Madhya Bharat Revenue Administration and Ryotwari Land Revenue and Tenancy Act, 1950, was enacted and brought into force from the 15th August 1950. This Act, not only consolidated the position of the tenants in the *ryotwari* areas but conferred occupancy tenant's rights on all those tenants who or whose predecessor's interest had been lawfully recorded as tenants. The Act also introduced certain restrictions on transfer of leases to enable more holdings of an economic size being created in future.<sup>3</sup>

After the formation of new Madhya Pradesh the whole position regarding land tenures and tenancy reforms in the constituent units was reviewed and, as a result, a unified Land Revenue Code, 1959, was enacted and brought into force from the 2nd October 1959. This Code incorporates all the important features of land reforms such as uniformity of tenures, protection of tenants against arbitrary ejection, rack-renting and conferring *bhumiswami* rights on them.

In place of multiple tenures existing previously, the Code provides for only one class of tenure holders of lands from the State to be known as *Bhumiswami*.<sup>4</sup> A *Bhumiswami* shall have rights of transfer subject only to one restriction that such transfer does not either create a holding above a prescribed

1. Madhya Bharat Ki Rajaswa Vyavastha Ki Pragati Par Ek Drishti, p. 4.

2. Patel, G. D., The Indian Land Problem and Legislation, p. 334.

3. *ibid.*, p. 335.

4. M. P. Land Revenue Code, 1959, Section 157.



limit or an uneconomic holding below 10 acres. Subject to certain restrictions, he will have full rights over all kinds of trees in his holdings. A *Bhumiswami* has also a right to mortgage his land both by simple or usufructuary mortgage.

The Code protects the rights of sub-tenants who are given the status of occupancy tenants.<sup>1</sup> An occupancy tenant can be conferred *bhumiswami* rights on his paying 15 times the land revenue in five equal instalments. To protect the existing occupancy tenants of *bhumiswami* from being rack-rented, it has been laid down that the maximum rent payable by an occupancy tenant shall not exceed four times the land revenue in the case of irrigated land, three times the land revenue in the case of lands under *bandhas* and two times the land revenue in other cases. No subletting or leasing of land is now permitted except in very emergent cases once in three years or by certain classes of persons such as widows, unmarried women, minors, etc.

The land reforms indicated above affect more the type of tenure than the size of the property. Even so some restrictions have been imposed in this respect. The maximum of individual holdings in respect of future acquisitions was fixed at 50 acres by the former Madhya Bharat Government. In respect of existing holdings, the Government of Madhya Pradesh has enacted a special law, which is known as the Madhya Pradesh Ceiling on Agricultural Holdings Act. According to this Act, apart from inherited land, no person shall acquire more than 25 standard acres per family consisting of a husband and wife. Additional 5 standard acres have been allowed for dependents upto five to the maximum extent of 25 standard acres depending on the number of dependents i.e., up to 50 standard acres.

### Consolidation of Holdings

The *Qanoon Mal* of the Gwalior State provided against fragmentation of holdings in that a tenant's holding could not be transferred if it was less than 25 bighas.

The question of introducing measures for the consolidation of holdings in the State was considered by the Gwalior State Government for the first time in the year 1924, when an officer was deputed to the Punjab to study the working of a similar scheme there. This officer submitted his report to the Government in February 1925 but after protracted consideration, it was decided in 1929 to drop the matter on the plea that the procedure of consolidation of holdings obtainable in the Punjab was impracticable in Gwalior State.<sup>2</sup> The question was again taken up during the period between 1940 and 1946 when necessary literature and data were collected and studied. However, the matter remained

1. M. P. Land Revenue Code, 1959, Section 185.

2. Report on the Administration of the Gwalior State, 1940-41, p. 80.



undecided until the State's amalgamation in the State of Madhya Bharat.<sup>1</sup> The Government of Madhya Bharat too did not undertake any specific legislative or other measures in this direction except that certain provisions against the fragmentation of holdings were made in the M. B. Revenue Administration and Ryotwari Land Revenue and Tenancy Act of 1950.<sup>2</sup> After the formation of the reorganized Madhya Pradesh the provisions of the Land Revenue Code of old M. P. 1954 (II of 1955), relating to the consolidation of holdings have been incorporated in the Land Revenue Code, 1959, which has been made applicable throughout the State.

### Bhoodan

The Bhoodan (land-gift) movement launched in the country in 1951 by Acharya Vinoba Bhave to solve the problem of landless labourers made its impact also in the former Madhya Bharat, which he visited in October 1951. Donations of lands were received by him for distribution to landless persons, the first preference being given to Harijans. To facilitate the work in connection with the Bhoodan movement in the State, the Government of Madhya Bharat enacted the Bhoodan Yagna Act (No. 3 of 1955) in 1955. Under this Act, a Bhoodan Yagna Board was established in the State with head-quarters at Gwalior, and all property, movable or immovable, received in connection with the Bhoodan movement, vested in the Board. The Board was empowered to constitute Tahsil Committees to assist it in its work at the tahsil level. The Board and the Tahsil Committees were given powers to allot lands to landless persons, capable of cultivating it personally or for community purposes. The person, to whom such an allotment was made, held the land subject to certain terms and conditions and after holding the land continuously for 10 years, he could acquire the same rights in it as the Board had.<sup>3</sup> This Act continues to be in force in the Madhya Bharat region of the new State of Madhya Pradesh, and the Bhoodan Yagna Board continued to function with its headquarters at Gwalior. Till the end of 1960, the Board had received 3,643 acres of land as Bhoodan in the Gwalior district, out of which 136 acres were distributed.

Apart from the Bhoodan scheme, the Government has also launched its own schemes for the economic uplift of landless persons. All State land not required for common village purposes has been earmarked for distribution to such persons without charging any premium or price. Till the end of 1960, 54,173 acres of land were allotted to landless persons for cultivation in the district. A scheme for the settlement of landless families into colonies is also in operation in the district. Till the end of 1960, 20 such families were colonized and a sum of Rs. 26,000 was advanced to them as loan and another sum of Rs. 32,960 as gratuitous relief by the Government.

### Rural Wages and Agricultural Labour

According to the Census of 1951 the population of the district is 5,30,299 out of which 2,82,341 live in rural areas and 2,47,958 in the urban areas. Thus,

1. Report on the Administration of the Gwalior State, 1941-42, p. 79; 1942-43, p. 112 and 1943-44, p. 108.
2. M. B. Revenue Department File No. 25/1950, pp. 31-32.
3. M. B. Bhoodan Yagna Act, 1955.



out of every 1,000 persons, 532 live in villages. Out of the total population, 2,80,747 are non-agriculturists and 2,49,552 are agriculturists, of whom 25,342 are cultivating labourers without land.<sup>1</sup>

An enquiry into the living conditions of agricultural workers in the country was conducted by the Government of India in 1951. For the purpose of this enquiry, the erstwhile Madhya Bharat State was divided into four zones and 24 villages were selected by stratified random sampling from village lists relating to each zone. Village Kathenda in the Pichhore tahsil was selected in the Gwalior district which was included in Zone I. According to this enquiry, the agricultural labourers could be classified as attached and casual, the latter forming the bulk. The enquiry further revealed that the attached labourers are usually engaged for the whole year or during the busy season for a period of six months. They usually receive Rs. 15-0-0 per month or grain of equal value and are allowed two daily meals costing about five annas and other perquisites, *viz.*, a pair of shoes worth Rs. 6.00, a turban and a *dorai* costing Rs. 2-8-0 and Rs. 6-0-0 respectively which are supplied once during the period of contract. The cash value of the remuneration inclusive of perquisites comes to Rs. 28-4-3. In addition, the worker gets tobacco from the employer for smoking or chewing during working hours. Women and children are not employed as attached workers. The following table<sup>2</sup> will illustrate the average wage rates in 1938-39 and 1949-50 and the percentage increase during the period in Zone I in respect of certain major agricultural operations:—

Year	Cash Value of Average Daily Wage		
	Men	Women	Children
	Ploughing		
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
1938-39	0-3-6		
1949-50	1-2-0 (511.3)		
	Sowing		
1938-39	0-3-3	0-2-1	0-1-10
1949-50	1-0-10 (517.9)	0-12-2 (584.2)	0-11-11 (650.0)
	Weeding		
1938-39	0-2-2	0-3-2	0-2-0
1949-50	0-13-9 (634.6)	0-11-2 (515.4)	0-10-11 (545.3)
	Harvesting		
1938-39	0-4-7	0-4-4	0-3-0
1949-50	1-9-0 (545.4)	1-6-7 (521.1)	1-0-5 (547.2)

(Figures within brackets indicate the percentage increase of wages in 1949-50 over the wage rates of 1938-39).

1. Gwalior District Census Hand Book, 1951, p. 6.

2. Madhya Bharat in 1951-1952.



After the formation of new Madhya Pradesh the State Government appointed a Committee in January 1959, under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, for advising it, among other things, in respect of fixation of minimum rates of wages in the scheduled employment of agriculture.<sup>1</sup> The Committee submitted its report in December 1959. According to this Committee, there is a wide variety of practices prevalent in respect of the cultivation of land. The chief amongst them are:—

- (i) cultivation of land by partnership,
- (ii) cultivating the land through "attached" workers, and
- (iii) cultivating the land by casual workers.

The most common system noticed by the Committee is that of partnership between the landowners and the agricultural labour, which is popularly known as '*batai*' in the district. The terms and conditions governing this system are generally based on the tradition of sharing the produce of the land, the land-holding partner supplying seeds, bullocks, manure and implements and the other partner supplying labour. This system, however, is losing ground gradually as farm labourers now generally prefer working on daily wages. The system of attached workers is also losing popularity more with the worker than with the farmer.<sup>2</sup> This is partly because some agricultural labourers are gradually acquiring land themselves. Broadly speaking, the remuneration paid to an attached worker on an average ranges between Rs. 150 and 250 per year. The period of their employment is about 6 to 11 months. In some places, such workers, specially those getting lower wages, are given mid-day meals by the farmers. As regards the casual worker, his general wage rates in M. B. region are between Rs. 1.25 nP. to Rs. 1.75 nP. per day which may even go upto Rs. 3.00 per day. The rates of wages paid to women and child labour are generally lower than those paid to men.<sup>3</sup>

On the advice of this Committee the Government fixed, in December 1959, the minimum rates of wages payable to workers employed in any employment in agriculture.<sup>4</sup> For this purpose, the State has been divided into the following three zones:—

**Zone I**—comprises the areas included within the municipal limits of a corporation or a municipality with a population of 50,000 and above and the places within 5 miles from the limits of such corporation or municipality.

**Zone II**—comprises all places not included in Zone I but included within the municipal limits of a municipality or a notified area with a population of 5,000 and above and the places within five miles from the limits of such municipality or notified area.

1. Report of the Minimum Wages Fixation and Revision Committee in the Scheduled Employment of Agriculture in Madhya Pradesh, 1959.

2. *ibid*, paras. 20, 22.

3. *ibid*, paras. 25, 29.

4. Labour Department Notification No. 7758-XVI. dated 31-12-1959.



**Zone III**—comprises all places not included in zones I and II.

The minimum rates of wages fixed are indicated in the table below:—

Class of employees	Rates		
(1)	(2)		
	Zone I	Zone II	Zone III
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Casual employees—			
Adult male	1.35 per day	1.15 per day	0.90 per day.
Adult female	1.15 per day	0.90 per day	0.75 per day.
Adult employees on a monthly contract for a period of one month or more.	30.00 per month	25.00 per month	20.00 per month.

Source.—Labour Department's Notification No. 7758-XVI, dated the 31st December 1959.

### Other Sources of Revenue

The fiscal system in the former Gwalior State was different from what obtains today in States. The State being an independent entity in financial matters, all its sources of revenue, were 'State' subjects and as such there was no source of revenue, which could be called 'Central'. The Gwalior Government, however, received from the Central Government its share on account of earnings from railways (other than the Scindia State Railway) which passed through the State's territories.<sup>1</sup> It also received annually from the Centre a sum of Rs. 3.12 lakhs as compensation for the relinquishment of duties on imported salt, the annual production of which was limited in the State to 54,000 maunds by an agreement made with the Central Government in 1878.<sup>2</sup>

Besides the income from land revenue, the other important sources of revenue of the State were customs and excise, forests, railways, stamps and posts.

Of these, customs and excise were substantial sources of revenue. Customs duties were levied on the import and export of 13 principal commodities on the borders of the State while excise duty was levied on country spirit, hemp drugs and opium.<sup>3</sup> Out of the total income of the State, which was about Rs. 3.75 crores during 1947-48, customs and excise alone contributed about Rs. 1.25 crores, land revenue yielding Rs. 1.00 crores.<sup>4</sup> Further, the income from customs and excise in the Gwalior district was the highest in the State. The table below shows the amount of annual revenue collections from these two sources in the district during the period from 1938-39 to 1945-46:—

Year	Income from customs	Income from excise. (opium, hemp drugs, liquor etc.)	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1938-39	4,07,317	2,67,282	6,74,599
1939-40	4,60,401	2,71,947	7,32,348 <sup>8</sup>

1. Quarterly Economic Review of Madhya Bharat, October-December, 1948.

2. Gwalior To-day, p. 94.

3. *ibid.*, p. 93.

4. Quarterly Economic Review of Madhya Bharat, October-December, 1948.



(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1940-41	5,05,846	2,86,619	7,92,465
1941-42	5,40,237	3,43,917	8,84,154
1942-43	4,24,103	4,35,123	8,59,226
1943-44	4,15,382	7,02,327	11,17,709
1944-45	5,49,166	10,49,317	15,98,483
1945-46	9,70,635	7,72,725	17,43,350

One of the reasons for the increase in revenue under excise after 1940-41 was the State's policy of stepping up of the prices of liquor, opium and hemp drugs.

The financial system underwent a series of changes after the State merged in Madhya Bharat. To begin with, all internal customs barriers within the new State were abolished in August 1948, and customs duty was levied only on the borders of the new State's territory. A more important change came after the coming into force of the Constitution of India, when an agreement was reached between the Government of India and the Government of Madhya Bharat in regard to financial integration. Under this agreement, among others the following items of revenue were transferred to the Centre from the 1st April 1950 :—

- (1) Central Excise.
- (2) Opium.
- (3) Railways.
- (4) Posts and Telegraphs.

Further, the inter-State customs duty was abolished progressively over a period of five years and the consequential loss of revenue was made good from alternate sources such as sales-tax, etc. The Indian Income Tax Act, was also adopted in the State from 1st April 1950. This was followed by the imposition of estate duty in the year 1953. The State of Madhya Bharat was assigned its share of Union excise duties, income-tax and estate duty collected within its territories. Thus emerged in the State of Madhya Bharat two types of revenue, Central and State.

The important items of Central revenues are Union excise duties, income tax and estate duty. Some particulars about these are given below :—

**Union Excise.**—The main excisable commodities in the district are cloth, sugar, tobacco, cement, vegetable non-essential oils, copper, yarn, wireless receiving sets, air conditioning machinery, patent and proprietary medicines, matches and electric fans. Excise duty on cloth, tobacco and sugar was levied under the Madhya Bharat Excise Act until the 1st April, 1950 when these items of revenue were transferred to the Central Government.



The Superintendent of Central Excise, Gwalior, is responsible for the collection of union excise duties in the Gwalior district. The annual receipts in the district from this source from 1949-50 onwards are given below:—

Year	Amount in Rs.
(1)	(2)
1949-50 .. .. .	10,11,904
1950-51 .. .. .	13,22,833
1951-52 .. .. .	14,69,668
1952-53 .. .. .	24,05,765
1953-54 .. .. .	37,53,417
1954-55 .. .. .	50,68,460
1955-56 .. .. .	60,69,279

**Income-tax and Estate Duty.**—The Indian Income-tax Act is administered in the Gwalior district by the staff of the Gwalior Income-tax Circle. The collection, etc., of estate duty was also entrusted to this staff until 1955-56 when a separate Assistant Controller of Estate Duty (of the rank of an Income-tax officer) was appointed for the M. B. region, first with headquarters at Delhi and from 1959 at Indore. The receipts from income-tax and estate duty in the district from the year 1950-51 to 1959-60 are indicated below:—

Year	Amount in Rs.
(1)	(2)
1950-51 .. .. .	3,42,984
1951-52 .. .. .	12,03,806
1952-53 .. .. .	25,27,494
1953-54 .. .. .	36,38,897
1954-55 .. .. .	50,43,602
1955-56 .. .. .	52,91,882
1956-57 .. .. .	77,60,068
1957-58 .. .. .	85,88,562
1958-59 .. .. .	78,46,717
1959-60 .. .. .	73,62,454



Certain important sources of State revenues, not already covered, are excise, stamps, forests, registration, sales-tax and taxes on motor vehicles etc. A brief account of the items of taxation and the income from them is given below:—

**Excise.**—The income under this head is from liquor, opium (until 1-3-1958) and hemp drugs. The M. B. Excise Act of 1949 was enacted during 1949-50 when the Central Opium Acts of 1857 and 1898 and the Dangerous Drugs Act of 1920 were also brought into force. The M. B. Excise Act of 1949 was replaced by an amended Act in 1952. The annual receipts from excise during the period from 1948-49 to 1959-60 are shown below:—

Year	Amount in Rs.
(1)	(2)
1948-49 .. .. .	12,82,001
1949-50 .. .. .	19,40,442
1950-51 .. .. .	20,50,640
1951-52 .. .. .	24,21,223
1952-53 .. .. .	19,79,540
1953-54 .. .. .	20,58,809
1954-55 .. .. .	29,01,040
1955-56 .. .. .	21,12,968
1956-57 .. .. .	20,06,183
1957-58 .. .. .	22,76,604
1958-59 .. .. .	21,45,436
1959-60 .. .. .	22,53,656

**Stamps.**—The annual income under this head, which is from sale of stamps of various denominations, both judicial and non-judicial, is shown below:—

Year	Amount in Rs.
(1)	(2)
1951-52 .. .. .	8,56,452
1952-53 .. .. .	9,27,350
1953-54 .. .. .	9,03,540
1954-55 .. .. .	5,53,385
1955-56 .. .. .	9,27,957
1956-57 .. .. .	4,97,845
1957-58 .. .. .	4,80,582
1958-59 .. .. .	7,18,553
1959-60 .. .. .	7,65,123



**Forests:**—As observed earlier, the percentage of forest area to the total geographical area in the Gwalior district is nearly 20 per cent. The forest area is administered by the Divisional Forest Officer, Gwalior Division, which comprises the districts of Gwalior and Bhind. The revenue from forests is derived from timber and other produce removed by Government and consumers, purchasers and from other miscellaneous sources like cattle grazing, etc. The annual income from the forests in the Gwalior Forest Division from the years 1949-50 to 1960-61 is indicated below :—

Year	Amount in Rs.
(1)	(2)
1949-50 .. .. .	1,20,238
1950-51 .. .. .	1,35,567
1951-52 .. .. .	1,58,914
1952-53 .. .. .	1,64,054
1953-54 .. .. .	1,84,560
1954-55 .. .. .	1,86,706
1955-56 .. .. .	2,69,581
1956-57 .. .. .	2,81,222
1957-58 .. .. .	2,10,127
1958-59 .. .. .	2,62,375
1959-60 .. .. .	2,21,538
1960-61 .. .. .	1,49,921

**Registration:**—The annual income under this head, which is derived from registration fee, copying fee, etc., is shown below :—

Year	Amount in Rs.
(1)	(2)
1952-53 .. .. .	14,835
1953-54 .. .. .	23,715
1954-55 .. .. .	23,691
1955-56 .. .. .	N. A.
1956-57 (from 1-11-56 .. .. . to 31-1-1957) .. .. .	7,17,272
1957-58 .. .. .	21,80,671
1958-59 .. .. .	22,45,700
1959-60 .. .. .	24,57,840



**Sales-tax.**—As stated earlier, sales-tax was first introduced in Madhya Bharat in 1950. The yearly receipts from this item in the district during the years 1950-51 to 1960-61 are shown below :—

Year	Amount in Rs.
(1)	(2)
1950-51 .. .. .	9,06,534
1951-52 .. .. .	18,34,797
1952-53 .. .. .	23,55,959
1953-54 .. .. .	29,21,915
1954-55 .. .. .	26,07,469
1955-56 .. .. .	N. A.
1956-57 .. .. .	35,70,819
1957-58 .. .. .	44,68,450
1958-59 .. .. .	20,37,399
1959-60 .. .. .	25,57,773
1960-61 .. .. .	25,91,575

**Taxes on Motor Vehicles etc.**—The income under this head is derived from the registration of motor vehicles, issue of licences to drivers and conductors, etc., which are levied under the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act. This Act is administered by the Transport Department.

The annual receipts from the taxes on vehicles in the Gwalior district from the years 1949-50 to 1960-61 are shown below:—

Year	Amount in Rs.
(1)	(2)
1949-50 .. .. .	6,332
1950-51 .. .. .	98,473
1951-52 .. .. .	47,441
1952-53 .. .. .	31,177
1953-54 .. .. .	38,317
1954-55 .. .. .	5,09,460
1955-56 .. .. .	4,63,360
1956-57 .. .. .	4,95,014
1957-58 .. .. .	2,47,987
1958-59 .. .. .	6,98,686
1959-60 .. .. .	9,35,400
1960-61 .. .. .	15,10,104



## CHAPTER XI

### LAW, ORDER AND JUSTICE

#### Early History

Though Legislation and Justice as now understood are of a comparatively recent growth, a well-organised system of rendering justice to the aggrieved and administering law and order existed in these parts from very early times. At the base of this system was the ancient rural institution of the panchayat, with the ruler as the final arbiter and dispenser of justice.

"In early days there were no regular courts, and all ordinary cases were decided verbally by the *Jagirdar* and *Ijaredar* in his own holding, only very important cases being dealt with by the Chief. The semi-religious systems inculcated by the Hindu *Shastras* and the Muslim *Koran* were taken as the guide. Capital punishment was exceedingly rare, heavy fines being ordinarily imposed for all crimes as being a more lucrative and satisfactory form of punishment. The fines levied went to the *Jagirdar* or the Chief. Mutilation was a common form of punishment especially on members of the lower classes. Civil suits were usually settled by Panchayat."<sup>1</sup>

During the early days of Maratha rule the unsettled state of Central India precluded the employment of any but the most rough and ready measures for dispensing justice. Hence under the early Maratha chiefs there were no written codes of law or a uniformity of procedure though in its general character the law followed in these parts conformed to the system obtaining under the Peshwas. Since the *Jagirdars* and *Ijaredars* under the Maratha rule exercised judicial powers within their estates, they settled the cases that came within their jurisdiction. If any party felt aggrieved at their decision he could take up the case to the ruler, but normally unless he happened to have friends at court or had the resources to gain admittance there, his chances of securing a hearing would be small.

No written records of cases appear to have been kept in those days, though scraps of evidence and occasional depositions have been found among old papers. Bonds for loans and other transactions were, however, formally executed and some of them still exist. Besides, from the evidence available it would appear that heinous crimes were investigated and efforts made to detect the culprits and punish them adequately, reports of such proceedings being always submitted to the ruler.

Most of the civil suits were referred to the panchayats whose decisions were usually accepted by both parties. In case any one side felt aggrieved at the decision of the panchayat it could appeal to the ruler who sometimes called upon both the parties to deposit large sums of money (ranging from Rs. 2,000 to Rs. 5,000) as a guarantee of good faith, the loser in the dispute forfeiting this deposit to the State.

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1. Gwalior State Gazetteer, p. 92.



"In 1844 Deo Rao Mama Sahib, when Minister to Maharaj Jayaji Rao established the first regular Court at Lashkar. It was known as the *Huzur Adalat*, or Chief Court. As the *Jagirdars* and *Izaredars* still exercised judicial powers the *Shastri* who presided over this Court as *Mukhtar Nyayadhish* or Chief Justice, only heard cases, and suits for Lashkar and Gwalior and a few surrounding villages. Appeals from the *Nyayadhish* were heard by the Minister."

The judicial system in Gwalior State underwent the first serious examination and reform during the time of the Maharaja's Minister, Sir Dinkar Rao who in 1853 withdrew the judicial powers exercised by the *Jagirdars* and *Ijar-edars* and placed the *Subas* and the *Kamavisdars* in charge of the judicial administration of the district. The *Suba* exercised judicial powers in the district and was assisted in the pargana by the *Kamavisdar* who was a magistrate of the Second class and a civil judge of the Second grade at the tahsil level. He in turn was assisted by a *Naib-Kamavisdar* who also had the powers of a third class magistrate. As an apex to the judicial system, the Minister established a *Sadar Adalat* or a Chief Court at Lashkar presided over by the Chief Justice and issued elaborate regulations known as *Dashtur-ul-amal* for regulating the procedure of the courts.

Below the *Sadar Adalat* was the Court of the *Sar Suba* (Commissioner) known as the *Prant Adalat*. Though this Court was abolished in 1862, it was again revived in 1886 and was invested with both original and appellate jurisdiction. Appeals from the *Suba* Court lay to the *Prant Adalat*. The *Suba* Court at the district level had original jurisdiction and heard appeals from the Pargana Officer's Court. The *Suba* (or Collector) presided over the *Suba* Court while the *Kamavisdar* held the Pargana Officer's Court and exercised original jurisdiction in both civil and criminal cases. In addition to these, a Court of Small Causes was established at Gwalior in 1886 to try petty civil cases whose value did not exceed Rs. 50. There was a separate Court of the Cantonment Magistrate at Morar established in 1885.

Some idea of the high ideals with which the ruler at the time was prompted in reorganising the judicial system, could be gathered from the note of Maharaja Madhav Rao Sindhia on the nature and duties of the Judicial Officer. Though actual performance might have fallen well below these precepts, they are none-the-less an indication that the exalted conception of the role of the Judiciary was present in their minds. The note says:

"The position of the Judicial Officer is not like the rest of the officers. He is a servant of the Darbar, yet while he presides in his Court, he is independent of all control except that of the laws which he administers. That being so, the Judicial Officer is called upon to recognise, that in the discharge of his duties he is constantly in the Divine presence and being beholden to nobody, is bound to dispense un-adulterated justice. He must



realise that his duty is not to consider any public or private expectations, not yield to the influence of power or pelf, not even to follow his personal inclinations. If any Judicial Officer falls short of this standard, no matter how slightly, he is the means and instrument of bringing a slur upon the Darbar. In other words, unless he is absolutely above all the influence just detailed, he must be held to have betrayed a trust and to have proved himself utterly unworthy of his position, not to say, sinned against the poor trusting people who came to him for justice.

"The Judicial Officer should understand that he is not expected to take into account the Darbar's wishes, much less would he be justified in considering the wishes of his relations and friends. He must ever remind himself that his Court-house is a tabernacle and he is the repository of a sacred trust. It certainly is no easy matter to rise to this altitude of impersonality and consequently the Judicial Officer's duties are peculiarly difficult to discharge but, on the other hand, it is a rare privilege to be a Judicial Officer. Be that as it may, until the Judicial Officers of the Darbar attain to this standard of independence and conscientious discharge of their duties, the Darbar Courts will never acquire that reputation for impartiality and independence which is the very essence of their being. What is more, it is an article of religious faith with me that if a Judicial Officer, more than any other officers, fails in giving awards which he believes to be absolutely just according to his lights, he is sure to be overtaken by Divine vengeance. It is often said that Mammon is all-powerful in the world, but Truth and Justice, given the necessary determination, are undoubtedly beyond the power and reach of money. I trust that the opinions I have expressed are alike in accord with the ancient conception of ethics, no less than with the accepted principles of State craft."

### Separation of Judiciary from Executive

A scheme for the reform and reorganisation of the Judicial Department in Gwalior State was prepared in 1907 by which the *Subas* were divested of their judicial powers and confined to revenue work. A separate cadre of judicial officers was created independently of the revenue officers for the districts and *Subas*. The District and Sessions Judge at the district level and the Munsiffs and Civil Judges at the pargana level were appointed to deal with criminal and civil work. It was, however, felt that if the *Subas* and the revenue officers were wholly divested of all magisterial powers, proper administration while the judiciary was wholly distinct from and independent of the executive, of the district, especially of law and order, could not be ensured. Therefore, it was decided to vest the revenue officers with some magisterial powers. In a circular issued by the Gwalior State Government on 23rd January 1909, the powers and functions of the District Magistrate were defined and the *Suba* was invested with the preventive magisterial powers under the Gwalior Criminal Code of Procedure. Similarly the *Tabsildar* was invested with the preventive



magisterial powers exercisable by a magistrate of the Second class. Since the *Subas* and the *Tahsildars* were responsible for the maintenance of peace and order in their respective jurisdictions they were given jurisdiction over cases relating to the taking of security for keeping peace and for good behaviour. In addition, they could try cases which were transferred to their file by the High Court.

Another anomaly in the working of judicial system was removed in 1909 when the Chief Justice who presided over the *Sadar Adalat* was relieved of the administrative duties in the Judicial Department and made free to devote all his time to the work of the High Court. Formerly the Chief Justice had to deal with considerable administrative work in the department such as preparing bills for enactment, giving legal opinion and advice on issues referred to the department by Government and attending to correspondence at the Government level. This interfered with his purely judicial work and therefore under the Durbar orders a separate office of a Judicial Member in charge of *Majlis-i-Khas* was created to deal with all administrative matters thus relieving the Chief Justice of this work.

At Gwalior, besides the Cantonment Magistrate at Morar, a Court of Honorary Magistrate at Lashkar and two Benches of Honorary Municipal Magistrates at Morar and Gwalior were established. The Honorary Magistrates were invested with powers of Third class Magistrate, while the Municipal Magistrate had First class Magistrate's powers and tried cases under the Municipal Act. By the Small Causes Act of 1916 the jurisdiction of the Small Causes Court at Gwalior was raised from cases of the value of Rs. 50 to Rs. 200.

Thus, the judicial set-up that emerged from the reorganisation of 1907-10, consisted of the High Court at Lashkar which, apart from original cases, heard appeals from the *Prant Courts* of Malwa, Gwalior and Isagarh and from the District and Sessions Court, the Court of the District Sub-Judge at Gwalior and the Courts of the Civil Judges at the tahsils. This set-up continued to function till the formation of Madhya Bharat in 1948.

Another measure of reform which was introduced in 1910 was the appointment of a Judicial Committee which would function as the highest judicial authority in the State and hear and determine appeals referred to it from the High Court and from the Revenue Bench. Among the members of the Judicial Committee were the Minister of Law and Justice and one or two others nominated by the ruler. There was a later reconstitution of Judicial Committee in 1942-43, according to which the Committee consisted of two members who were designated as senior and junior members and formed a separate establishment independent of the Law Department.<sup>1</sup> The reconstitution of the Judicial Committee in this form was in consonance with the policy of complete separation of judiciary from the executive.

1. Report on the Administration of the Gwalior State, 1942-43, p. 152.



This position continued until the formation of Madhya Bharat State when the Madhya Bharat High Court of Judicature was created in 1948. The High Court was vested with the Jurisdiction to entertain and dispose of all appeals, revisions and original cases above a certain limit, in accordance with the provisions of law. Two Benches were set up, one at Gwalior and the other at Indore. With the creation of the Madhya Bharat High Court, the Judicial Committee of the former Gwalior State no longer dealt with the appeals from the High Court. However, since a number of old appeals and review applications were pending with the Judicial Committee at the time the Madhya Bharat High Court was formed, a new body was set up called the Nyaya Sabha to dispose of these pending cases.

With the formation of Madhya Bharat, the District and Sessions Judge, Gwalior continued to head the judiciary in the district. Till 1952 his jurisdiction extended only to the revenue district of Gwalior, but thereafter the district of Shivpuri was also added to his charge with an Additional District and Sessions Judge posted at Shivpuri. This position continued after the Reorganisation of States and the formation of Madhya Pradesh. However, the seat of the High Court was shifted from Gwalior to Jabalpur though a Bench was retained at Gwalior. In 1961, the jurisdiction of the District and Sessions Judge, Gwalior was extended to Datia district in addition to Shivpuri. There were five Additional District and Sessions Judges to assist the Gwalior District and Sessions Judge, three of whom were stationed at Gwalior and one each at Datia and Shivpuri.

#### ORGANISATION OF CIVIL AND CRIMINAL COURTS

The following courts<sup>1</sup> existed in the district in 1945-46 to deal with civil cases :—

1. Court of District and Sessions Judge, Gwalior.
2. Court of District Sub-Judge, Gwalior.
3. Court of City Sub-Judge, Lashkar.
4. Court of City Judicial Officer, Lashkar.
5. Court of Cantonment Magistrate, Morar.
6. Court of Cantonment Magistrate, Lashkar.
7. Court of Sub-Judge, Bhandar.
8. Court of Judicial Officer, Gird, Gwalior.
9. Court of Judicial Officer, Kasba, Gwalior.
10. Court of Judicial Officer, Antri.
11. Court of Judicial Officer, Ghatigaon, Pichhore.
12. Court of Honorary Magistrate, Lashkar.

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1. Report on the Administration of the Gwalior State, 1945-46, p. 426.



The District Judge, Gwalior, is the head of the civil courts in the district though he also controls the civil courts of Shivpuri district\* which is included in the Gwalior Civil Division.

The District Judge is assisted by other judges of different classes as indicated in the table below :—

**Strength of Civil Judiciary, Gwalior 1957 to 1961.**

Designation	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
(1) District and Sessions Judge. .. .. .	1	1	1	1	1
(2) Additional District and Sessions Judge. .. .. .	N. A.	N. A.	N. A.	N. A.	3
(3) Civil Judge I Class. .. .. .	3	3	2	2	2
(4) Civil Judge II Class. .. .. .	2	2	4	4	4
(5) Judge, Small Causes Court .. .. .	1	1	1	1	1

Note :—The post of Judge of Small Causes Court was held as an additional charge by a Civil Judge of I class during 1958-61.

Source:—District and Sessions Judge, Gwalior.

**Court of the District Judge.**—The highest Court in the district is the District Court and it is presided by the District Judge. The District Judge ordinarily holds his court at Gwalior, the headquarters of the Gwalior Civil District, but he may hold it elsewhere also with previous sanction of the Government. It is the principal court of original civil jurisdiction in this district within the meaning of the Code of Civil Procedure. He is empowered to try all original suits on proceedings of a civil nature in which the value exceeds Rs. 10,000.

The District Judge exercises various powers under the Civil Procedure Code some of which extend to the whole of Gwalior civil district and some only to Gwalior revenue district. Among the former category, covering the revenue districts of Gwalior and Shivpuri are all civil appeals arising out of suits exceeding Rs. 5,000 but not exceeding Rs. 10,000, and all other proceedings under any special Act, except as otherwise provided for. His powers within the revenue district of Gwalior only, consist of all civil suits exceeding Rs. 10,000 in value, all executions and miscellaneous applications arising out of them; all civil regular appeals exceeding Rs. 700 and not exceeding Rs. 5,000 and all miscellaneous civil appeals.

**Courts of the Additional District Judge, Gwalior.**—There are three Courts of Additional District Judge in Gwalior revenue district:—

(1) Court of the First Additional District Judge.

\* Also Datia district since 1961.



(2) Court of the Second Additional District Judge.

(3) Court of the Third Additional District Judge.

The work of the three Additional District and Sessions Judges stationed at Gwalior is distributed fairly evenly and classified under powers exercisable within the whole of Gwalior revenue district, or parts thereof. Their powers are generally co-extensive with those of the District Judge, and they hold their Courts in such place or places in the district and transact their business as may be determined by Government or by the District Judge.

There are six Civil Judges in the district. The jurisdiction of Civil Judges Class I extends to all original suits and proceedings of civil nature in which the value of the property involved does not exceed ten thousand rupees.

The jurisdiction of a Civil Judge Class II extends to all original suits and proceedings of a civil nature wherein the subject matter does not exceed in amount or value rupees five thousand. The Civil Judges class I and II are invested with jurisdiction of a Court of Small Causes for hearing of suits not exceeding rupees five hundred and rupees two hundred respectively.

**Appellate Jurisdiction.**—Appeals from the subordinate courts lie to the District Judge which is the court of appeal. The District Judge hears and decides all appeals from decrees and orders passed by the subordinate courts from which appeal lies under any law for the time in force. In all suits decided by a Civil Judge in the exercise of his ordinary or special original jurisdiction, of which the amount or value of the subject matter exceeds rupees five thousand, the appeal from his decision lies to the High Court. In all other cases, it lies to the District Judge. The spheres of jurisdiction of the Civil Judges class I and of the Civil Judges class II are clearly differentiated.

#### Administration of Criminal Justice.

As mentioned earlier, the responsibility for the administration of criminal justice in the district rests on the District and Sessions Judge though the Collector in his capacity as District Magistrate and Assistant Collectors and senior Deputy Collectors in the capacity of Additional District Magistrates also exercise some powers under the preventive sections of the Criminal Procedure Code. Except for such sections all other criminal cases are disposed of by the District and Sessions Judge who is the highest court of criminal justice within the district. A number of other categories of Magistrates are provided to assist him in quick and efficient disposal of cases. The table below shows the strength of Magistracy from 1957 up-to-date :—

**Strength of Magistrate, (1957-1961)**

Designation	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
(1) District Magistrate .. .. .	1	1	1	1	1
(2) .. Additional District Magistrate .. .. .	2	2	2	2	2



	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
(3) District and Sessions Judge .. .. .	1	1	1	1	1	1
(4) Additional District and Sessions Judge .. .. .	3	3	3	3	3	3
(5) Municipal Magistrate Class I .. .. .	1	1	1	1	1	1
(6) Magistrate Class I .. .. .	2	2	2	2	2	2
(7) Special Railway Magistrate .. .. .	..	..	1	1	1	1
(8) Magistrate Class II .. .. .	..	..	2	1	2	2

*Source.*—District and Sessions Judge, Gwalior

**The Court of the District Magistrate.**—The history of gradual evolution of the powers of the Collectors as District Magistrate has already been described in another part of this Gazetteer. The District Magistrate tries various criminal cases under sections 100, 107, 109, 110, 113 and 145 of the Criminal Procedure Code. In practice he delegates most of his powers to his senior subordinates who are designated as Additional District Magistrates. The District Magistrate is not expected to try all types of cases. The Government of India remarked in 1887 that, "the primary function of District Officer lies more in obtaining a complete control over every branch of administration than in trying cases."<sup>1</sup>

The District Magistrate generally keeps on his file only those cases in which issues connected with race feeling or caste prejudices are involved. Other miscellaneous criminal suits under the preventive sections are disposed of by the Additional District Magistrates.

**Courts of Additional District Magistrates.**—There are two courts subordinate to the court of the District Magistrate, which entertain different types of suits filed under the preventive sections of Criminal Procedure Code and try suits which are transferred from the file of the District Magistrates from time to time. The Additional Magistrate (city) holds Mobile Courts to try cases under Motor Vehicles Act. This helps in the control of number of road accidents.

**Court of the Sessions Judge, Gwalior.**—Gwalior Sessions Division consists of two revenue districts of Gwalior and Shivpuri\* and the principal seat of the court is at Gwalior. The Sessions Judge has jurisdiction to hear and dispose of all Sessions cases e.g., criminal appeals, criminal revisions, miscellaneous proceedings and applications arising out of the whole Sessions Division, and special cases that may be allotted by the Government under the Criminal Law Amendment Act. All murder cases are tried by the Sessions

1. Report on Judicial Administration (Criminal) of C. P., 1887, p. 4.

\* Also Datia district since 1961.



Judge and murder sentence requires confirmation of the High Court. The District and Sessions Judge functions as a Sessions Judge when trying criminal and as District Judge while trying civil cases.

**Court of Additional Sessions Judge.**—There are three courts of Additional Sessions Judges in this district. These courts try cases of sessions, criminal appeals, criminal revisions, miscellaneous proceedings, etc., as are made over to them by the District and Sessions Judge, Gwalior. The post of Additional District Judge is a combined one and held by one Judge who acts as Additional Sessions Judge when trying criminal cases and as Additional District Judge when trying civil cases.

**Courts of Stipendiary Magistrates.**—As shown in the table above, there were five Stipendiary Magistrates, subordinate to the court of Sessions on 1st January 1961. Out of this number, one was a Municipal Magistrate (I class), one Special Railway Magistrate, one Magistrate (I class) and two were Magistrates of Second Class.

**Jurisdiction and Powers of Magistrates.**—The Municipal Magistrate, First Class, Gwalior is empowered to try cases under the Municipal Act which arise from the Municipal Corporation area comprising Lashkar, Gwalior and Morar. He also holds Mobile Courts. The Special Railway Magistrate, Gwalior is empowered to try cases arising under the Indian Railways Act within Gwalior District. The powers of other Magistrates are also defined clearly. A First Class Magistrate is empowered to award imprisonment upto two years and a fine of Rs. 1,000 only. A Second Class Magistrate is empowered to award an imprisonment of six months and a fine of Rs. 200 only, while Third Class Magistrate can award one month's imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 50 only.

**Panchayat Boards.**—Gwalior was one of the first princely states to realize that panchayats could do useful work in the administration of justice. To provide for more expeditious and less expensive machinery, to settle petty disputes by the members of the public themselves the system of Panchayat Boards was introduced in Samvat 1968 (Year 1912).<sup>1</sup> The Government in passing this measure was actuated by the best of motives for the welfare of its subjects. The objects which the Government had in view in passing this Act are briefly given in the preamble which runs :—

“Whereas it is desirable that with a view to—

- (a) diminish the expenses of litigation,
- (b) to afford facilities to the public in the adjustment of their petty disputes,
- (c) to render the principal and more intelligent inhabitants useful and respectable by employing them in administering justice to their neighbours.

Board of Panchayat should be appointed to entertain and determine civil suits and to try criminal cases relating to petty offences.”<sup>2</sup>

1. Report on the Administration of the Gwalior State, 1937-38., p. 138.

2. *ibid.*, 1911-12, p. 79.



The Act aimed at the revival of the ancient village panchayat system. Many initial difficulties had to be faced in giving practical shape to this system but when once they had been overcome and Boards established at convenient centres, they soon proved to be useful institutions. The success of this measure, however, very much depended on the judicious selection of the members of the Boards. The quantity of work both civil and criminal turned out by the Boards steadily increased, and to that extent the ordinary courts were relieved of dealing with petty cases. The number of cases which the parties voluntarily submitted to the Board for arbitration also increased.

"The success of the Boards greatly depends on the morale of the members, i.e., integrity and impartiality with which the members would discharge their duties. If the members would inspire confidence into the public mind by their work, the litigant public are sure to avail of and appreciate their gratuitous services in the cause of justice by submitting their civil disputes, irrespective of money-limit, and thus save themselves the trouble and the expense of fighting out their cases in ordinary courts. I would like the members to realise that by taking upon themselves the duties of administering justice they owe it to themselves to discharge their duties honestly and faithfully and thus render a noble service to the State and their fellow brethren. The greater the confidence they infuse into the public mind the larger would be the number of suits voluntarily referred to them for arbitration."<sup>1</sup>

**Powers of Panchayat Boards.**—The pecuniary jurisdiction of the Boards ordinarily extended to cases up to Rs. 25 in civil suits and Rs. 50 in *Sarsarimal* cases. The parties to a case could, at their own free will and choice, refer to the Board cases irrespective of its money value. The judgements of the Board were final i.e., no appeal or revision on merits lay to ordinary courts. They were also invested with criminal jurisdiction for the trial of following offences:—

- (1) Section 10—Simple Hurt.
- (2) Section 104—Criminal Assault.
- (3) Section 11—Criminal Assault or Wrongful Restraint.
- (4) Section 38—Mischief.
- (5) Section 42—Criminal Trespass.

In 1915 there was a proposal to expand the scope and function in two directions, namely, that (a) the Panchayat Boards be entrusted with civil cases upto Rs. 500 subject to appeal to the courts, and (b) the Panchayat Boards be appointed in the towns such as Lashkar, etc.<sup>2</sup> But this could not be implemented because to raise their jurisdiction to Rs. 500 subject to right of appeal to ordinary courts would have turned the Boards into Pargana Courts and would have seriously affected the utility of the Boards, for their utility lay in the finality of their judgements. The second proposal of establishing the

1. Report on the Administration of the Gwalior State, 1914-15, p. 69.

2. *ibid.*, 1916-17, p. 96.



Boards in towns was also not free from difficulty, both in regard to details and principle. Thus neither of these modifications was proceeded with.

With the formation of Madhya Bharat a Panchayat Act, No. 58 of Samvat 2006 (year 1949), was enacted. But for a time the old Panchayat Boards continued to function in accordance with the rules of the respective covenanting States. The panchayat elections under the Madhya Bharat Act were held in the district in June 1951. In regard to some vacant seats Government nominated suitable persons under section 15 of the M. B. Panchayat Act. After the conclusion of elections of Sarpanchas and Upsarpanchas the names of all Panchas, Sarpanchas and Upsarpanchas were published in Gazette in November 1951. The panchayats thus constituted, started functioning from the 26th January 1952.

**Nyaya Panchayats.**—Nyaya Panchayats are judicial bodies in the rural areas, of which 33 exist in Gwalior district. "Nyaya Panchayats have been established for an area of Gram Sewak's Circle. The number of members of a Nyaya Panchayat ranges from 5 to 11. Each member is elected for a population of 500. The Panchas and the Sarpanch of a Nyaya Panchayat are elected by the Panchas of the Village Panchayats of the area from amongst themselves. The candidate for the post of Sarpanch should be able to correspond in writing. The term of a Nyaya Panchayat is one year but it could continue to function until a new Nyaya Panchayat is duly constituted. The Sarpanch or a Panch of a Nyaya Panchayat could be removed by the Collector on certain grounds and such a Sarpanch or Panch is not eligible for election for three years.

"No Nyaya Panchayat could pass an order confining a person to prison. They are empowered to impose a fine up to Rs. 100 but in case of non-payment of fine, imprisonment could not be ordered in lieu thereof by the Nyaya Panchayat. They are empowered to entertain civil suits of certain nature the value of not exceeding 100 rupees, but the State Government is authorised to raise this limit up to rupees 500. With the consent of the parties the Nyaya Panchayat could entertain civil suits prescribed in the Act of whatever value provided that such suits are not collusive. The expenses of the Nyaya Panchayats are borne by the Kendra Panchayats. The most important feature of the Madhya Bharat Act, is in regard to conciliation of disputes. The Act provides for the formation of a Conciliation Board comprising of the Sarpanch of the Nyaya Panchayat and two Panchas, one each nominated by the two contending parties. The function of the Board is to facilitate conciliation between parties in any suit, whether civil or criminal triable by the Nyaya Panchayat of the area concerned. It is statutorily provided that the Nyaya Panchayat should not take cognizance of any dispute unless conciliation proceedings have failed."<sup>1</sup>

1. Report of the Rural Local Self Government Committee, M.P. 1957, pp. 78-79.



## INCIDENCE OF CRIME

A perusal of the following tables will show that in this district the crimes reported and decided related mainly to offences against the public tranquility, murder, attempt at murder, offences affecting life, hurt, wrongful restraint and wrongful confinement, kidnapping and forcible abduction, theft, criminal breach of trust, cheating, simple trespass, offences relating to local and special laws, offences against contempt of lawful authority or public servants, offences effecting public health, safety and convenience, criminal force and assault and offences relating to documents and falsification of accounts.

The table given below shows the incidence of various crimes in the district during the period 1939-1946:—

Year	No. of Heinous Crimes.	No. of Other Offences.	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1939 .. .. .	77	1,201	1,278
1940 .. .. .	57	1,320	1,377
1941 .. .. .	43	1,350	1,393
1942 .. .. .	58	1,380	1,438
1943 .. .. .	95	1,599	1,694
1944 .. .. .	89	1,565	1,654
1945 .. .. .	62	1,358	1,420
1946 .. .. .	97	1,290	1,387

Source.—Reports on the Administration of the Gwalior State, 1939-40 to 1945-46.

The table shows that while there has been a fluctuation in the number of crimes during the period, the broad trend indicated a rise. The number rose from 77 in 1939 to 97 in 1946.

## Analysis of Offences under the Indian Penal Code

The table below indicates the offences committed under each class during the years 1958 and 1959.

Item	Pending from last year	Reported during the year 1958	Total	Pending from last year	Reported during the year 1959	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
(1) Offences against State, Public tranquility, safety & Justice	62	146	208	88	291	379
(2) Serious offences against the person	252	669	921	334	697	1,031
(3) Serious offences against person & property and against property only	108	299	407	140	204	344
(4) Minor offences against the person	66	157	223	22	145	167
(5) Minor offences against property	216	634	850	294	716	1,010
(6) Offences under Special & Local Laws	N.A.	N.A.	5,760	687	6,153	6,840

NOTE.—Figures relate to Gwalior Sessions Division as a whole.

Source.—District and Sessions Judge, Gwalior.



(1) **Offences against the State Tranquility, Safety and Justice.**—The offences included under the head relate to (1) army and navy, (2) coins, (3) stamps, (4) Government Promissory Notes, (5) currency notes and bank notes, (6) harbouring an offender, (7) against public justice, (8) against lawful authority of public servant, (9) rioting and unlawful assembly, (10) impersonation of a public servant or a soldier, and (11) religion.

The total number of offences for disposal in 1959 under the head was 379 as against 208 in 1958. Out of the total cases for disposal 291 were reported in 1959 while 81 were pending from previous year as against 146 cases reported in 1958 and 62 pending from last year.

(2) **Serious Offences against the Person.**—The classes of crime included under this head are—(1) murder, (2) attempt to murder, (3) culpable homicide, (4) rape by a person other than the husband, (5) unnatural offence, (6) exposure of infants or concealment of births, (7) attempt to aid abetment or suicide, (8) grievous hurt, (9) administering stupefying drugs to cause hurt, (10) hurt (11) kidnapping or abduction, (12) extortion, (13) hurt and assault to deter a public servant from his duty, (14) criminal force to public servant or women or an attempt to commit theft or wrongful confinement, and (15) rash or negligent act causing death or grievous hurt.

The total number of offences for disposal under this head in 1959 was 1,031 as against 921 in 1958. Out of the total cases for disposal 697 were reported in 1959 while 334 were pending from last year as against 609 cases reported in 1958 and 252 cases pending from previous year.

(3) **Serious offences against persons and property or against property only.**—The classes of crime included under this head are—(1) dacoity and preparation and assembly for dacoity, (2) robbery, (3) serious mischief and cognate offences, (4) mischief by killing, poisoning or maiming any animal, (5) lurking house-trespass, etc., (6) connection with gangs of dacoits, robbers and thieves, etc.

The total number of offences for disposal were 344 in 1959 and 407 in 1958. Out of these offences 204 were reported in 1959 and 140 were pending from 1958 while 299 were reported in 1958 and 108 were pending from previous year.

(4) **Minor offences against the Person.**—The following classes of crime are included under this head—(1) wrongful restraint and confinement, (2) rash act causing hurt or endangering life, and (3) intimidation, insult or annoyance.

The total number of offences for disposal was 167 in 1959 as against 223 in 1958. Out of these offences 145 were reported in 1959 and 22 were pending from previous year as against 157 reported in 1958 and 66 pending from previous year.

(5) **Minor offences against property.**—The classes of crime included under this head are—(1) ordinary thefts, (2) cattle thefts, (3) criminal breach of trust,



(4) receiving stolen property, (5) cheating, (6) aggravated trespass, and (7) breaking closed receptacle etc.

The total number of offences for disposal in 1959 was 1,010 as against 850 in 1958. Out of these 716 were reported in 1959 while 294 were pending from last year as against 634 cases reported in 1958 and 216 pending from previous year.

**(6) Offences Under Special and Local Laws.**—Classes of crime included under this head are—(1) Public nuisances, (2) Police Act, (3) Gambling Act, (4) Excise Act, (5) Prohibition Act, (6) Arms Act, (7) Opium Act, (8) Lunacy Act, (9) Post Office Act, (10) Opium Smoking Act, (11) Pakistan Control Orders, (12) Forest Act, (13) Motor Vehicles Act, (14) Dangerous Drugs Act, (15) Telegraph Act, (16) Games Act, (17) Public Safety Act, (18) Cantonment Act, (19) Railway Act, (20) Poison Act, (21) Explosives Act, (22) Slaughter Act, (23) Ferry Act, (24) Press Emergency Powers Act, (25) Highways Act, (26) Scheduled Castes Act, (27) Petroleum Act, (28) Criminal Law Amendment Act, (29) Municipal Act, and (30) Goonda Act.

Thus total number of offences under this head were 6,840 in 1959 as against 5,760 in 1958. Out of these 6,153 were reported in 1959 and 687 were pending from 1958.

#### **Incidence of Cognizable Crimes**

The table below indicates that all types of cognizable offences have registered a general rise since 1939-40, the beginning of the Second World War. The number of offences committed has gone up from 1,610 in 1940-41 to 5,169 in 1957-58, 7,867 in 1958-59 and 8,572 in 1959-1960. The number of cases found to be false has also more than proportionately increased from 217 in 1940 to 559 in 1957-58 and 1,241 in 1959-60.

In the number of cases challaned for trial the highest number, namely 8,823 was in 1959-1960 as against 671 in 1940-41. There were, however, 2,129 cases pending in court in 1959-60 as against 303 in 1940-41.

Year	Total No. of offences including pending cases	False cases	Cases challaned for trial	Cases ending in conviction	Cases ending in acquittal	Cases pending in courts	Cases under police investigation
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1940-41 .. ..	2,058	217	671	105	263	303	264
1941-42 .. ..	2,148	208	709	235	118	356	385
1942-43 .. ..	2,600	216	866	277	121	468	730
1943-44 .. ..	2,986	201	994	297	209	488	552
1944-45 .. ..	2,527	223	954	269	186	499	419
1945-46 .. ..	2,384	287	900	274	821	392	469



(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1957-58 .. ..	6,388	559	3,732	N.A.	N.A.	1,238	N.A.
1958-59 .. ..	9,084	1,329	8,781	N.A.	N.A.	1,492	N.A.
1959-60 .. ..	10,064	1,249	8,823	N.A.	N.A.	2,129	N.A.

*Source.*—(1) Reports on the Administration of the Gwalior State, 1940-41 to 1945-46.

(2) District and Sessions Judge, Gwalior.

The number of persons involved in these crimes and sent up for trial also reveals a corresponding trend. It was the highest, 15,587, in 1959-60 and 11,800 persons in 1957-58. The largest number of persons convicted, namely 6,606, was also in 1959-60 followed by 6,253 in 1958-59 and 4,513 in 1957-58. The number of acquittals was the highest 1,799 in 1957-58, followed by 1,696 in 1958-59 and 1,402 in 1959-60.

### Important Classes of Crimes

The Appendix XVIII gives the details of important crimes in the district since 1951.

**Dacoity.**—The problem of dacoity in Gwalior district, as well as in the adjoining districts of Bhind, Morena and Jhansi (U. P.) is of long standing and is the product partly of historical factors and partly economic. Some of the cases spring from ancient family feuds or disputes. The problem had grown endemic in this area, and called for an all-out effort to root it out. This effort was made from 1957 onwards, and a special anti-dacoity Police force was stationed in the area. The strength of the force in Gwalior district is 2 Inspectors, 5 Sub-Inspectors, 10 Head Constables and 75 Constables. Four new Police Stations were opened at Maharajpura, Tigra, Gijera and Karhaiya. As a result of the intensive campaign carried out in the last three years almost all the notorious gangs including their leaders have been liquidated. Though splinter gangs of these dacoits continue to carry on their depredations sporadically in the region, they are far less in number and are being progressively checkmated and captured.

**Robbery.**—The offences under this head are also now effectively being controlled by the police. The average number per year of crimes under this head was 31 during the period from 1957 to 1959. Most of these crimes were not of serious nature but consisted mainly of waylaying people on lonely roads and relieving them of their petty belongings.

**Riots.**—The number of crimes under this head has steadily decreased from 66 in 1951 to 17 in 1956.

**Burglary.**—This type of crime in the district is usually committed by local criminals. Very few outside criminals are involved in this crime in the district.



**Cattle Theft.**—This type of crime has been mostly traced to local bad characters. They drive away cattle when they get favourable opportunity and sell them off at Morena, Bhandar, Pichhore etc. As shown in the table this crime is now gradually on the decrease, and fell from 103 in 1957 to 62 in 1956. The average number of the thefts was about 92 per year.

**Ordinary Thefts.**—The type of thefts falling under the category are cycle-thefts, personal thefts, bazar thefts, ghat and fair thefts, etc. Such crimes are quite common in the district and their average occurrence per year is about 481.

**Kidnapping.**—There is a comparatively low occurrence of this crime in the district, as only 11 cases on the average occurred during the year. Cases of kidnapping often go in association with dacoity crimes.

### ORGANISATION OF THE POLICE FORCE

Until 1853 no distinction existed between the military and the police as the same body of men served in both capacities. A section of the army was set apart for police duties and was called the '*Girai*', a name by which police are still known in some districts. The use of terms such as *Barkandaz*, *Kotwal* etc., in old records indicates that there were organised local offices which looked after the safety of the district officials, but their duties were not well defined. The staff of this department were generally paid their salaries and allowances either by the Durbar or by the *Ijaredars*.

At Lashkar a special body of Mewatis was enlisted for watch and ward. In 1853 when the *Ijaredari* system was abolished regular *chowkidars* were appointed. The police regulations of 1853 did not make any distinction between cognisable and non-cognisable offences and they were empowered to arrest suspects in all cases. The police also exercised certain judicial powers. The staff consisted of *chowkidars*, constables, *inamdars* and *kotwals* for the city and *Zila* who were all responsible to the district officers.

A re-organisation of the police force was effected in 1874 and a distinction was also drawn between cognisable and non-cognisable offences. However, police and magisterial powers remained united and the district officers continued to control the police in their charges.

With the reorganisation of the police department in 1889, the judicial powers exercised by the police were withdrawn and the force placed under a *Naib-Dirwan* as Inspector-General of Police. At the same time a Deputy Inspector-General and Superintendent, Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors were appointed and their duties clearly defined. A Police Manual was issued in 1889. In the year 1895, the *Prant* Police was placed under the *Sar-Suba* and the posts of Inspector-General and Deputy Inspectors-General were abolished. The *Zila* Superintendent was made Assistant *Suba* in charge of police with limited power of making arrest. During the early part of the 20th century, however, i.e., in 1903, the post of Inspector-General was again revived and the police department was taken out of the hands of the district officials.



The police department underwent another stage of re-organisation when in 1948 the Union of Madhya Bharat was formed by the merger of more than 20 Central Indian States. With the formation of this union, the police force was organised on provincial lines. Each of these States had its own police force with varying organizational set-up. "The Indore and Gwalior States had well established Police force, in the smaller states the standard dropped quite considerably."<sup>1</sup> The Madhya Bharat Police Force was formed by the amalgamation of all these units.

The Police Ordinance *Samvat* 2005, providing for the unification and organisation of Police Force of the Union<sup>2</sup> was promulgated in November 1948 and was later replaced by an Act in 1949.

In January 1949, the structure of the Gazetted Cadre of the Police Force was finalised. It included one Inspector-General of Police, four Deputy Inspectors-General of Police, 25 Superintendents of Police and 25 Deputy Superintendents of Police. The State was divided into three ranges each under a Deputy Inspector-General of Police. One Deputy Inspector-General of Police was placed incharge of Criminal Investigation Department, the department having been organised on the lines of its counter-parts in the rest of the country. Three officers of the rank of the Superintendent of Police—one in charge of Special Branch, another incharge of Crime Branch and the third incharge of the criminal tribes, assisted the Deputy Inspector-General of Police incharge of this department. Corresponding to the Deputy Inspector-General's ranges the Criminal Investigation Department has three zonal officers of the rank of Deputy Superintendent of Police.<sup>3</sup>

#### Present Organisation

The head of the Police Department of the State is Inspector-General of Police, a post included in the cadre of the Indian Police Service. The State is divided into five ranges (Northern, Southern, Western, Eastern and Central) each of which is under a Deputy Inspector-General. A Deputy Inspector-General is in charge of Special Police Organisation, the Special Branch which deals with political crime, the Criminal Investigation Department which is responsible for the detection of professional crime and criminal organisations of more than local importance, the maintenance of the Finger Print Bureau, and the diffusion of intelligence as to the movements and methods of criminals and the Government Railway Police which is maintained for the prevention and detection of crime on railways. The railways of the State are, for this purpose divided into three sections. Each section is under a Superintendent of Railway Police:—

- (1) Western Section with headquarters at Jabalpur,
- (2) Eastern Section with headquarters at Raipur.
- (3) Indore Section with headquarters at Indore.

At the headquarters of the district there is a Superintendent of Police and subordinate to him Assistant Superintendents or Deputy Superintendents.

1. Report on the General Administration of Madhya Bharat, 1948-49, p. 23.

2. *ibid*, p. 24.

3. *ibid*, p. 25.



each generally in charge of a group of circles. Subordinate to Deputy Superintendents are Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors who are divided into Investigating and Prosecuting Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors. Below them are the rank and file of constables and head constables. For purposes of police investigation the district is divided into circles, each in the charge of an Inspector, and each circle into station-house areas, in the charge of the senior Sub-Inspector. Village crime is reported at station-house by village watchmen, known as *kotwars* and if of sufficient importance, investigated by the station-house staff under the supervision of the Circle Inspector. The district has a prosecuting Inspector who conducts prosecutions in magisterial courts assisted by a prosecuting Sub-Inspector. The District Magistrate exercises a general control over the activities of the police of this district, but has no power to inflict departmental punishments or to interfere directly in its internal administration.

**Strength of the Police Force.**—The table below shows the number of police stations and *chowkis* in the district. In 1940-41 there were 12 Police Stations, and 30 Officers and 660 men while in 1941-42 the number of *chowkis* was only 33, as five *chowkis* were abolished and the sanctioned strength was raised to 31 officers, the strength of men remaining unchanged. By 1956-57 the sanctioned strength of the force was 48 officers and 1,016 men. This was increased in 1957-58 by 50 per cent in the strength of officers and 6 per cent in the strength of men, the sanctioned strength being 72 officers and 1,080 men. This increase in strength was partly due to the opening of four new police stations and two police outposts and partly due to the concentrated efforts for the eradication of the dacoits' problem from this district. The actual strength in the year was 71 officers and 1,049 men i.e., it was short of the sanctioned strength by one officer and 31 men. In 1959-60 the actual strength of the force was 74 officers and 1,098 men. Thus it is seen that the strength of the Police Force has registered a steady rise since 1940-41.

**Strength of Police Force (Gwalior District)**

Year	No. of Police Stations	No. of Out posts	No. of Chowkis	Sanctioned Strength	
				Officers	Men
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1940-41	12	..	38	30	660
1941-42	12	..	33	31	660
1942-43	12	..	33	35	661
1943-44	12	..	32	37	667
1944-45	12	1	32	37	676
1945-46	12	..	32	33	670
1956-57	17	3	..	48	1,016
1957-58	20	3	..	72	1,080
1959-60	20	4	N.A.	N.A.	1,098

Sources.—(1) Reports on the Administration of the Gwalior State, 1940-41 to 1945-46.

(2) Reports on Police Administration in M. P., 1956-57 and 1957-58.

(3) Office of the Senior Superintendent of Police, Gwalior.



The District has a Senior Superintendent of Police as its administrative head who is under the control of the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Northern range, with headquarters at Gwalior. In addition, there is a Superintendent of Police who looks after the rural areas. There are five other gazetted police officers in the district to assist the Senior Superintendent of Police—one Deputy Superintendent is in charge of C. I. D., another of Anti-Dacoity Operational Intelligence, the third in charge of Greater Gwalior and two for general supervision. The category-wise details of the police force as on 31st March 1960, are that there were 67 Inspectors and Assistant Sub-Inspectors, 165 Sergeants and Head Constables and 30 Mounted (cavalry) Constables and 933 Foot Constables, the total of the category was 1,202. While in 1957-58 there were 68 persons holding the posts of Inspectors, Sub-Inspectors and Assistant Sub-Inspectors, 30 Mounted Constables, 160 Sergeants and Head Constables and 921 Foot Constables—the total strength of the force (officers and men) being 1,184. As against this in 1956-57 there were 48 persons holding the posts of Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors, 147 Sergeants and Head Constables, 30 Mounted Constables and 839 Foot Constables, the total strength of the force (officers and men) being 1,070.

The Police Force at the district headquarters is divided into following classes:—

(1) **District Executive Force.**—This force is utilised for duty for the general prevention and control of crime in the district. There are 20 Police Stations and four out-posts in the district. The Police Stations situated in Gwalior City are Kotwali, Janakganj, Indraganj, Madhavganj, Gwalior and Morar. The remaining Police Stations are situated at Birolī, Antri, Pichhore, Dabra, Bhitwar, Panniar, Ghatigaon, Bhandar, Pandoker, Behat, Maharajpur, Tigra, Gijora and Karhaiya. The last four police stations were created in 1957 in connection with anti-dacoity operational work.

(2) **Special Armed Force.**—Armed and trained reserves were first introduced in the district during the reign of the former ruler of Gwalior State. In 1957, three battalions of the force were stationed at Gwalior and their strength was as follows:—

Number of S. A. F. in the District Sanctioned Strength		Actual Strength		Vacancies	
Officers	Men	Officers	Men	Officers	Men
105	2,396	98	2,300	7	96

Source:—Report on Police Administration of Madhya Pradesh for 1957.

(3) **Special Intelligence Branch.**—In this district there is a small section of Local Intelligence Branch consisting of one Inspector, four Sub-Inspectors, 10 Head Constables and 11 Constables. Their duties are to deal with matters relating to political parties, collecting intelligence and to keep a watch over political suspects.



(4) **Prosecution Branch.**—This unit consists of one Prosecuting Inspector, seven Sub-Inspectors, one Head Constable and 14 Constables to deal with prosecution cases in the courts.

(5) **Traffic Branch.**—To meet heavy requirements of controlling the traffic a separate unit for traffic control has been set up which consists of one Sub-Inspector, two Head Constables and four Constables. The Municipal Corporation has constructed traffic islands at important road crossings of the city.

(6) **Reserve Police.**—There is a small unit of Reserve Police in the district consisting of 12 Sub-Inspectors, 80 Head Constables and 334 Constables.

There is no separate staff for prohibition and anti corruption but when necessary the local police station staff is utilised for the work.

(7) **Railway Police.**—There is Railway Police Station at Gwalior Station (for Broad Gauge and Narrow Gauge). The Gwalior Railway Police staff is subordinate to the Assistant Inspector-General of Police, Criminal Investigation Department. There is a railway police station at Gwalior whose strength is one Sub-Inspector, two Head Constables, three Naiks and 39 Constables, who were utilised for watch and ward duty as well as for escorting trains. This police station is under the jurisdiction of Superintendent of Railway Police, Indore, who in turn is under D.I.G. of Police (Crimes and Railways), Bhopal.

## JAILS AND LOCK-UPS

### Administration

Until 1893, jails in the Gwalior State were managed by the Judicial authorities and controlled by the Chief Justice. Since 1893, however, they were placed under a Jail Superintendent, who in turn was subordinate to the Inspector-General of Prisons. This system of administration is being continued today. The Prisons and Jails Manual came into force from the 1st July 1917. The Manual consists of two divisions, one dealing with provisions relating to prisoners and other relating to the internal management of Jails. Some noticeable features of the Manual are :—

- (1) Provision for the establishment of reformatory schools.
- (2) Appointment of official visitors to jails and provision for the appointment of non official visitors.
- (3) Substitution of an improved remission system in place of the old, and
- (4) Provisions for imparting religious instruction to convicts, and affording the convicts reasonable facilities for observing religious rites.

### Location of Jails and Prison Organisation

There is a Central Jail which was established in Lashkat, in 1903, which also admitted certain categories of prisoners from the districts of Bhind.



Morena, Shivpuri and Vidisha, who under certain regulations had to be lodged in Central Jail. The following classes of prisoners are lodged in the jail:—

- (1) All casuals and habituals sentenced to below three months and above as well as those sentenced to death from the above districts.
- (2) All casuals and habituals sentenced to below three months in these districts are also transferred to the Central Jail, Lashkar, except from the parganas of Sabalgarh, Shivpuri and Ambah.

**Kotwali and Lock-ups.**—Besides the district has a Kotwali in the city and lock-ups distributed in the district. The lock-ups are attached to every police station in the district where offenders are kept for over-night custody, when they are produced before the trial magistrate or transferred to the Kotwali.

**Organisation and Set-up.**—The Central Jail, Gwalior is under the Superintendent of Jail and a senior Jailor, Deputy Jailor and Assistant Jailors are provided to assist him. There is also a technical staff consisting of Weaving Master, Carpentry Instructor and a Tailor, for training the prisoners.

Generally, officers and staff of the jail are provided with residential accommodation within the premises of the jail and admission to the premises is restricted. The City Kotwali and other Police lock-ups are under the Police Department. The Kotwali is under the charge of an Inspector of Police with Head Constables and Constables to assist him. The smaller lock-ups are in the charge of the Station House Officers of the rank of a Sub-Inspector. The Kotwali and the lock-ups are under the administrative charge of magistrates of the area.

**Central Jail, Lashkar (Gwalior).**—Central Jail, Lashkar (Gwalior) is one of the largest in the State. It is divided into three parts on a functional basis. In the first part is located the jail hospital. In the second part which lies in the centre, the power-looms, mess and the carpentry department are housed. Besides, the mental section is also in this portion. In the third part, the convicted prisoners are kept in a double storied building. Under-trial prisoners are kept in separate sections.

On entering the jail the prisoner's personal clothing is withdrawn and he is provided with jail clothes, bedding and utensils. Prisoners are then given physical check up and then according to their physical capacity or efficiency in a particular type of craft they are transferred to the appropriate department. Here they are offered training in various trades to make them better citizens when they are released from the Jail.

**Education.**—Two teachers are provided for the education of the prisoners. They also arrange for the recreation of the prisoners in outdoor and indoor games.



In addition to the whole-time teachers literate prisoners teach their fellow prisoners in the night classes held in barracks. Prisoners are encouraged to appear in various public examinations. The examination fees are borne by the Government and books are supplied at Government expense. Literacy amongst the prisoners is encouraged by the grant of special remission to literate prisoners. A Physical Training Inspector is employed in Central Jail, Gwalior who conducts physical training classes. He also trains the warder staff in drill. *Bhajans* and *kirtans* and other devotional programmes are held from time to time. There is a 16 m.m. projector and a magic lantern in this jail, with the aid of which prisoners are shown educational films including feature films. The jail is a member of Central Film Library from where good films are obtained. A radio set is installed in the jail, and prisoners are enabled to listen to news and to other instructive and interesting items of the programme. There is a good jail library which has books on various subjects. Approved newspapers are also supplied to the prisoners.

**Vocational Training.**—Vocational training is imparted in *niwar*, *dari* and carpet weaving, tailoring, laundrying, printing, carpentry, dyeing and bleaching etc. Small-scale industries as tape and lace making are also taught.

**Jail Visitors.**—In order to ensure that the rules and regulations for the management of prisoners are duly observed in the jail, visitors are nominated by Government who visit the jail periodically and submit their report to the authorities.

There are two types of visitors, official and non-official. Official visitors include the Director of Health Services, Inspector-General and Deputy Inspector-General of Police (C. I. D. and H. Q.), Director of Industries, Commissioner of the Division, District and Sessions Judge, District Magistrate, Sub Divisional Magistrate, Deputy Director of Agriculture and District Education Officer. The Civil Surgeon is an ex-officio visitor in his own sphere and is in overall charge of the health of the inmates of the jail. Besides there are six non-official visitors appointed for a term of three years.

The Central Jail Visitors inspect the buildings, examine the drainage, water-supply, the condition of the cooked food and the amount distributed to prisoners and see if there is any over-crowding. They also ensure that the full quota of oil and spices is issued, that prisoners perform their full quota of work, that strict discipline is maintained, remission is given to qualifying prisoners, habituals are separated from others particularly at night, under-trial prisoners are not lodged in the jails for long periods, and female prisoners are thoroughly concealed from the view of male prisoners. They see to it that juvenile, women and adolescent prisoners are kept separately from each other, that every cell is utilised at night, and make sure that there is no undue delay in forwarding appeals to courts, or in the receipt of court's orders on appeals, etc. If the members find any discrepancy an entry is made in the *Visitor's Book*.



The jail authorities are bound to submit an explanation to the Government and also to rectify the short-comings.

### Classification of Prisoners

A prisoner confined in a jail may be (i) convicted criminal prisoner or (ii) a prisoner detained without trial under any law relating to the detention of such prisoners, and (iii) a civil prisoner.

Under-trial prisoners are divided into two classes (i) special class, and (ii) ordinary class. Convicted criminal prisoners are divided into three classes A, B and C.

**Prison Population.**—The following tables depict the population in Central Jail, Gwalior for the period 1957 to 1959 among the convicts and under-trials :—

**Prison Population (1957-59)**

Year	Total		Discharged from all causes		Remaining at the end of the year	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
(a) Convicts						
1957 .. .. .	915	11	631	6	284	5
1958 .. .. .	1,108	10	799	7	309	3
1959 .. .. .	1,105	7	625	6	480	1
(b) Under-trials						
1957 .. .. .	999	17	823	12	176	5
1958 .. .. .	1,174	14	1,042	12	132	2
1959 .. .. .	1,433	22	1,296	22	137	..

Source.—Superintendent Central Jail, Gwalior.

It will be seen that the highest number under this head was 1,118 in 1958, males being 1,108 and females 10. As against this there were 1,112 prisoners in 1959, males being 1,105 and females 7. In 1957 the number was still lower, males being 915 and females 11.

The highest number of convicts discharged was 806 (799 males; 7 females) as against 637 in 1957, males being 631 and females 6. The number was 631 in 1959, males being 625 and females 6.

The highest number remaining at the end of the year was 481 in 1959—480 being males and one female. As against this number in 1958 there were 312 prisoners out of whom 309 were males and three females. The lowest number was in 1957 out of which 284 were males and five females.



### Jail Amenities

The trying court while deciding an under-trial's case mentions the special class to which an under-trial prisoner is entitled in view of the social status, education or habit of life to which he might be accustomed.

'A' class prisoners are allowed to bring their own bed sheets and mattresses of a size approved by the Superintendent of Jail. Mosquito curtains can also be obtained. A chair or stool for each prisoner, shelf for books and a cupboard for clothing are also allowed. In addition, 'A' class prisoners are allowed additional food at their own expense and may use their own feeding utensils if they so desire. They are allowed to read books and literature available in the jail library.

'B' class prisoners are lodged in cells of brick work, built in barracks. They receive their diet according to the scale as fixed for the 'A' class prisoners, but they are not allowed to bring additional food even at their own expense. They are supplied with two handkerchiefs, one comb, a scheduled list of clothing and other articles such as one to three blankets according to season, two bed-sheets, and a few utensils like a brass mug, an aluminium plate, etc.

'A' and 'B' class prisoners who have behaved well may, at their own expense, be permitted to buy such newspapers, periodicals and magazines as have been approved by the Government.

### Welfare of Prisoners

A Sudhar Samiti has been established in this jail for encouraging strict observance of the rules by all prisoners and for promoting civic sense among them. The Panchas elected by the prisoners are members of this Samiti. It is entrusted with the task of handling the ration of prisoners, and preparation and distribution of food as also any other duty assigned to them by the Superintendent with the approval of the Inspector-General of Prisons.

Generally, remission in sentence is given to (1) prisoners for good conduct, (2) prison servants, (3) convict officers, (4) prisoners who assist in detecting or preventing breaches of prison discipline, and (5) experts in handicrafts, good workers, etc.

**Probation.**—The Madhya Pradesh Prison Release on Probation Act is in force from 1954. Any prisoner eligible under this rule makes an application for release. The Probation Officer conducts a preliminary enquiry in respect of such prisoners and submits a report to the Probation Board. The prisoners when released are supervised by the Probation Officer who also helps them to rehabilitate themselves in society.

**Jail Industries.**—A number of industries were introduced in the Central Jail, Lashkar from time to time, important among them being carpet making, *daris*, soap making, wool spinning, blanket making and furniture making. The jail is also running a printing press and conducts classes in tailoring, cane work and laundrying.



## NUMBER OF CASES IN THE DISTRICT

## (I) Criminal Cases—

(1) **Total Number of Offenders Reported.**—The total number of offenders in Gwalior Sessions Division (Gwalior and Shivpuri Revenue districts) reported in 1959 was 2,419 as against 2,107 during 1958 and 1,711 in 1957, while offences under special and local laws in the division were 6,153 in 1959, 5,760 in 1958 and 3,458 in 1957, as shown in the table below:—

S. No.	Nature of Offences	Year		
		1957	1958	1959
(1)	Under I. P. C.	1,711	2,107	2,419
(2)	Special & Local Laws	3,458	5,760	6,153
(3)	Code of Criminal Procedure (under Chapter VII)	2,664	2,722	3,037

Note.—Figures relate to Gwalior Sessions Division as a whole.

Source.—District and Sessions Judge, Gwalior.

**Cases Disposed.**—The total number of cases disposed by all Magistrates in Gwalior Sessions Division was 7,932 in 1959 as against 7,488 during 1958 and 6,208 during 1957. The number of persons involved in these cases is 15,587, 14,670 and 8,562 in 1959, 1958 and 1957, respectively. The percentage of cases disposed by all Magistrates in the Sessions Division was as under:—

No.	Magistrates	Year		
		1957	1958	1959
1	Additional District Magistrates	17.8	18.1	26.6
2	Stipendiary Magistrates	82.2	81.9	73.4

Note.—Figures relate to Gwalior Sessions Division as a whole.

Source.—District and Sessions Judge Gwalior.

**Conviction Under Offences.**—The number of accused persons convicted and their percentage in Gwalior Sessions Division was as below:—

No.	Offences	Year					
		1957		1958		1959	
		Conviction	Percentage	Conviction	Percentage	Conviction	Percentage
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1.	Hurt	104	5.9	174	10.5	176	11.6
2.	Criminal force and assault	38	9.7	31	11.0	16	8.2



(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
3	Other offences under I. P. C. ..	475	11.4	549	11.3	731	13.5
4	Offences under Special and Local Laws	3,930	67.7	5,599	70.7	5,683	67.0
5	All offences .. .. .	4,513	38.2	6,353	43.3	6,606	42.4

Note.—Figures relate to Gwalior Sessions Division as a whole.

Source.—District and Sessions Judge, Gwalior.

**Witnesses.**—The number of witnesses who attended Magisterial Courts as witnesses was 3,549 in 1959 as against 6,531 in 1958 and 5,262 in 1957. Out of them 194 were discharged without examination in 1959. The total number of witnesses who were paid diet money and travelling expenses was 1,121 in 1959, 1,662 in 1958 and 2,117 in 1957. The total expenditure in the district was Rs. 2,907.11 in 1959, Rs. 4,031.32 in 1958 and Rs. 4,022.26 in 1957.

The average amount per witness was as follows for the last three years:—

Years	Average per head
1957	Rs. 1.88 nP.
1958	Rs. 2.55 nP.
1959	Rs. 2.60 nP.

Note.—Figures for 1957 and 1958 relate to Gwalior Sessions Division.

Source.—District and Sessions Judge, Gwalior.

**Punishment.**—The following table gives the various kinds of punishment awarded to persons during the last three years:—

S. No.	Nature of Punishment	Years		
		1957	1958	1959
1.	Deaths .. .. .	2	3	1
2.	Transportation for life .. .. .	13	8	..
3.	Imprisonment (including imprisonment in default of giving security for good behaviour)	386	432	881
4.	Fine .. .. .	4,513	4,914	5,201
5.	Whipping .. .. .	..	..	..
6.	Security taken .. .. .	16	29	62

Note.—Figures for 1957 and 1958 relate to Gwalior Sessions Division as a whole.

Source.—District and Sessions Judge, Gwalior.



**Fine.**—The total amount of fine imposed during the year 1959 was Rs. 33,359.37 as against Rs. 43,273.98 during 1958 and Rs. 33,917.26 during 1957. Out of this Rs. 33,582.37 were realised during 1959 as against Rs. 42,382.98 in 1958 and Rs. 35,349.36 in 1957. The number of persons fined was 5,201 in 1959 as against 4,944 in 1958 and 4,514 in 1957.

**Appellate and Revisional Jurisdiction.**—The number of persons whose appeals came up before the Courts of Sessions (from Gwalior Sessions Division) during the year 1959 was 327 as against 431 in 1958 and 316 during 1957. Appeals in which the sentence remained unaltered during the year 1959 were 122 or 37 per cent as against 82 or 19 per cent in 1958 and 74 or 23.8 per cent in 1957.

The following table shows the variation in the average duration of appeals and revisions during the years 1959, 1958 and 1957 in terms of number of days:—

Name of the Court	Appeals			Revisions		
	1957	1958	1959	1957	1958	1959
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
(1) Sessions Judge, Gwalior .. .. .	82	107	227.1	143	180	181
(2) I Additional Sessions Judge, Gwalior ..	94	176	179.0	219	156	158
(3) II Additional Sessions Judge, Gwalior ..	..	377	66.4	..	388	179.7
(4) III Additional Sessions Judge, Gwalior ..	..	..	116.0	..	..	86.5

Source.—District and Sessions Judge, Gwalior.

## (II) Trial of Miscellaneous and Judicial Civil Suits

The table below gives the details regarding disposal of other suits in the district during the last three years :—

S. No.	Nature of Disposal	Year		
		1957	1958	1959
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1. Without trial .. .. .		252	152	157
2. <i>Ex parte</i> .. .. .		620	298	551
3. Admission of claim .. .. .		8	2	..
4. Compromised .. .. .		51	55	31
5. After full trial .. .. .		454	320	273
6. Pending for disposal .. .. .		405	386	292

Note.—Figures for 1957 relate to Gwalior Civil district as a whole.

Source.—District and Sessions Judge, Gwalior.



**Duration of Civil Suits.**—The table below shows the duration of civil suits disposed under various heads :—

S.No.	Nature of Disposal	Year					
		1957		1958		1959	
		Total No. of Days	Average Duration	Total No. of Days	Average Duration	Total No. of Days	Average Duration
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1	Without trial .. .. .	31,555	125	19,834	713	22,703	1,028
2	<i>Ex parte</i> .. .. .	73,537	119	19,249	846	65,363	1,013
3	Admission of claims .. .. .	649	81	75	375	..	..
4	Compromised .. .. .	5,278	103	7,449	55	2,379	3,875
5	After full trial .. .. .	41,669	93	34,420	323	44,780	572

Note.—Figures for 1957 relate to Gwalior Civil District as a whole.

Source.—District and Sessions Judge, Gwalior.

**Civil Appeals Against Decrees.**—For the sake of clarity the disposal of regular and miscellaneous civil appeals in Gwalior district, during the years 1958 and 1959, is shown below in tabular form:—

S. No.	Description of Appeals	Civil Appeals		Miscellaneous Appeals	
		1958	1959	1958	1959
1.	No. of Appeals before the Court—				
(a)	Pending at the beginning of year	544	370	211	111
(b)	Filed during the year .. .. .	226	362	102	148
(c)	Otherwise received .. .. .	163	171	73	39
(d)	Total .. .. .	933	903	391	298
2.	No. of Appeals disposed—				
(a)	Disposed or not prosecuted .. .. .	39	24	30	20
(b)	Confirmed .. .. .	232	298	153	112
(c)	Reversed .. .. .	62	49	24	22
(d)	Otherwise disposed .. .. .	77	72	24	17
3.	No. of Appeals pending—				
(a)	Total .. .. .	370	284	122	85
(b)	Over 3 months .. .. .	199	106	41	52
(c)	Over one year .. .. .	201	47	53	5

Note.—Figures for 1958 relate to Gwalior Civil District as a whole.

Source.—District and Sessions Judge, Gwalior.



## LEGAL PROFESSION AND BAR ASSOCIATIONS

The legal profession came into existence almost simultaneously with the judiciary in the district, since cases could be instituted only through accredited legal practitioner. In *Samvat 1970* (1914) admission into the ranks of the bar was limited to those who had passed the prescribed examination called the pleadership and Mukhtarship examinations. On the creation of the Legislative and Judicial Department in *Samvat 1966* (year 1910) the Durbar invested the Legal and Judicial Member with authority to grant or revoke the *Sanads* of Pleders and Mukhtars at his discretion. Owing to the great rush of applications for the grant of *Sanads* it was decided to hold an examination for Pleders and Mukhtars. A notification containing rules for admission and other kindred matters was issued on the 3rd September 1911 in the Government Gazette.

Pleders and Mukhtars were divided into two classes—High Court Pleders and High Court Mukhtars, *Prant* Court Pleders and *Prant* Court Mukhtars, the main distinction between two classes being the disability of the *Prant* Court Pleders and Mukhtars to practise in the High Court.

Besides, Law graduates from Indian and foreign universities and advocates of British Indian High Courts were granted *Sanad* without requiring of them any other test. The Pledership examination and Mukhtarship examination were suspended in 1921 and 1922 to prevent overcrowding and unhealthy competition in the legal profession. In *Samvat 1980* (1924), the duties and responsibilities of the legal profession were defined clearly. In order to bind the members for the faithful discharge of their duties a form of oath was prescribed and entrants were required to fulfil it.

**Bar Association**

There are two Bar Associations in this district—one at Gwalior and the other at Bhandar. The Gwalior Bar Association was founded in 1911. The present membership of this association is 146. The membership is open to (a) all advocates, (b) pleaders, and (c) Mukhtars registered by the Government. The Bhandar Bar Association has six members, out of whom three are advocates.



## CHAPTER XII

### LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

From an inscription of A. D. 876, we learn that during the time of king Bhoja Pratihara I there was an Executive called *Vara* entrusted with the civic affairs of a town, and that the Board of Gwalior town consisted of three members (*Varikas*)—two of them *Sreshthis* (guild presidents) and one *Sarhavaha* (caravan leader).<sup>1</sup> After the time of the Pratiharas we have no further reference about the organisation or administration of civic affairs in Gwalior district till we come to quite modern times.

We might trace the story of Local Self-Government in the district, as we understand it, to the year 1887 when the Council of Regency that administered the Gwalior State during Madhav Rao Sindhia's minority set up the first municipality at Lashkar.<sup>2</sup> The Municipal Committee consisted of five members appointed by the Government, but hardly had the Committee entered upon its functions, when it was found unable to work satisfactorily. It was, therefore, abolished and a Secretary appointed by the Durbar to administer the civic affairs. Lashkar town had a population of about 85,000 in 1891, while the neighbouring township of Kampu had 12,000 and the old Gwalior town about 10,000 population.

A new beginning was made in setting up a civic body for Lashkar when the ruler, Madhav Rao Sindhia, assumed ruling powers and got a compilation of Municipal laws prepared for the guidance of the civic administrators. The Lashkar Municipality was reorganised by him in 1898-99, and a General Committee consisting of 63 members selected from among the Sardars and other notable residents of the town was formed. This body began to function in August 1898, with the Maharaja himself as the President of the Committee. A small Managing Committee of 13 members was appointed to serve as the executive body. The Lashkar Municipal Committee had an income of Rs. 61,283 in 1889-90, which rose to Rs. 72,058 in 1899-1900. The population of Lashkar town was 85,748 in 1901.

With the satisfactory working of Lashkar Municipality several schemes of improvement in civil life were taken up, a major scheme being the lighting of Lashkar town by the supply of electric power, for which a sum of Rs. 2,94,000 was sanctioned in 1904-05. Meanwhile, a municipality was set up for the old Gwalior town in October 1904. To stimulate a civic sense and to organise improvement work among the people, the Gwalior Durbar nominated, in 1907-08, a senior member in every circle of wards who would attend to the civic work in his area, ascertain the local needs of the people and give effect to the decisions of the General Committee.

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1. The Age of Imperial Kanauj (Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan) p. 239; also A. S. Altekar State and Government in Ancient India, p. 168.

2. Report on the Administration of the Gwalior State, 1897-98, p. 42.



In order to regulate the working and the future administration of the municipalities—and a third municipality for the township of Morar had been formed in October, 1912—a new Municipal Act was passed in 1912 which enlarged the scope and powers of municipal committees, and introduced the elective principle. With the formation of an elected Board, the ruler vacated the presidential chair in 1913, and the two municipalities of Gwalior town and Morar were amalgamated with the Lashkar Municipality. In 1913-14 the municipality framed rules for the registration of births and deaths in the municipal area, but the enforcement of them proved to be defective for a considerable period.

In the light of the working of these local bodies, a Commission was appointed in 1920-21 to study the administration of the municipalities, and suggest measures to improve their working and increase their income, and generally to make them more useful and effective in improving the sanitation, street-lighting, maintenance of roads etc. Following the findings of this Commission, a new Board was constituted in January 1922 consisting of 30 elected and 15 nominated members. Two more municipal committees came into existence in the district, one at Bhandar in 1925 and the other at Pichhore in 1927. A major step taken by the Gwalior Municipal Board was to lay the foundation stone of the new power-house at Motijheel in 1928-29, which was to serve both for pumping the water-supply to the town and also generate power for supplying Lashkar, Morar and old Gwalior. The supply of water was actually commenced in April 1929. In the following year the streets of Morar and certain parts of Lashkar were supplied with electric lighting.

In 1931, however, certain serious irregularities were discovered in the working of the Board, and the Council of Regency, which was in charge of the State administration after the death of Madhav Rao Sindhia, ordered the dissolution of the Board. The *Suba* of Gwalior was asked to take over charge of the Board and function as its Chairman. This was followed by the appointment by the *Majlis-i-Am*, of a Committee consisting of official and non-official members to take up the revision of the Municipal rules. Under this revision the rules were liberalised and a new Board was set up, with 30 elected members and 15 nominated members, the President to be either elected or nominated according to the decision of the Durbar.

The Municipal Act of 1912 was revised in 1936, and a new legislation called the *Qanoon Municipalities* of 1936 was brought into force in June 1937. An important provision of this Act was that the members of the Board were empowered to elect the President, who had hitherto been nominated. A Municipal Committee was established in the growing town of Dabra in 1940, thus making three municipal committees in the district, besides the Gwalior Municipal Board. This position has remained till now except that Gwalior has now become a Municipal Corporation. The income of the Gwalior Municipal Board which rose to Rs. 11,41,540 in 1952-53 further increased to Rs. 14,33,361 in 1953-54.



After the formation of Madhya Bharat in 1948, the legislation governing municipal committees was reviewed, and a new measure called the Madhya Bharat Municipalities Act came into force in January 1954. By this Act all the municipalities in the covenanting States were brought under a uniform system, and they were given well-defined powers and functions. An important feature of the Act was that it did away with the system of nomination of members, and provided for the election of Aldermen, not exceeding one-fourth of the total elected members, by single transferable vote. Special representation was provided for in the Act for members of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The Municipal Board was authorised to sanction its own budget and impose certain taxes.

The Madhya Bharat Municipal Corporation Act, 1956, gave the status of a Municipal Corporation to the Gwalior City Municipality and it came into force on the 30th October, 1956. The area covered by the Corporation is 18.50 square miles with a population of 2,40,397. Under this Act the Gwalior Corporation has a strength of 50 councillors consisting of 34 members elected from 34 city-wards and one each from three double-member *halkas*. In addition to this, 10 Aldermen are elected by the elected members. The Act provides for at least one woman councillor to be elected. The term of the elected members is for four years, while the Mayor of the Corporation is elected each year by the members from amongst themselves. They also elect a Deputy Mayor who presides over the meetings of the Corporation in the absence of the Mayor. In order to help the Corporation in its work there are seven special Consultative Committees, each with a membership of between five to nine councillors. These Consultative Committees look after different branches of the civil activities, such as, public works, education, water works, law, revenue etc. Apart from the Consultative Committees the Corporation elects a Standing Committee, consisting of 10 members and holding office for one year. The Standing Committee functions as an executive committee of the Corporation, and considers the budget estimates and has power to sanction any estimate or contract not exceeding Rs. 25,000. It is vested with the power of appointing a person to a municipal post up to a certain salary limit, and can impose penalties upon the municipal servants.

The Corporation has at its disposal the services of a Commissioner appointed by Government, normally for a renewable period not exceeding five years. The Commissioner is the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation and controls the other officers and servants of the Corporation except those attached to the Corporation office. The Commissioner has the right to speak and take part in the meetings of the Corporation or of any of its committees, though he has no power to vote. It is the Commissioner's duty to prepare and lay before the Standing Committee the annual budget estimates of the Corporation.

In the actual working of the Corporation, it is organised into different sections, such as, revenue, health, octroi, shops and establishment etc. The Corporation has been vested with the power to impose a schedule of taxes, such as property tax, conservancy tax, water tax etc., and certain cesses.



**Financial Resources:**—The main sources of revenue for the Corporation are rent, taxes, cesses, levied by the Corporation and loans raised by it. The table below gives the annual income and expenditure of the Gwalior Corporation for the period 1956 to 1960:—

Year	Income	Expenditure
	Rs.	Rs.
1956-57	21,19,720.10	17,31,881.36
1957-58	22,91,819.53	20,56,532.92
1958-59	21,13,447.58	21,28,106.96
1959-60	25,72,503.45	26,09,197.08

### MUNICIPALITIES

In the Gwalior district, apart from the Municipal Corporation of Gwalior, there are three municipalities—Dabra (1st Class B), Pichhore (2nd Class B) and Bhandar (2nd class B).

The work of each of these municipalities is carried out by a Council constituted under the Madhya Bharat Municipalities Act, 1954. The Council consists of elected and selected councillors. The election is made on the basis of adult franchise and selected councillors do not exceed one-fourth of the total number of elected councillors. Special representation is also provided for the members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on a population basis.

The position of the councillors of the above municipalities is as given below:—

Name	Elected	Selected	Reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Col. 2.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1. Dabra .. ..	8	2	0
2. Pichhore .. ..	5	1	1
3. Bhandar .. ..	8	2	1

*Sources:*—Office of the Inspector General of Municipalities, Gwalior.

The usual term of the Council is of three years, which can be extended up to a further period of one year by the Inspector General of Municipalities.

The elections to the present Municipal Council of Pichhore were held on the 10th November 1957, after the expiry of the term of office of the previous Board constituted on the 21st June 1954. Similarly, elections for the Bhandar Municipality were held on the 22nd December 1957, but in consequence of a writ filed in the High Court, the elections were declared void on the 9th July, 1959, and fresh elections were held on the 25th December 1960. The elections of the Dabra Municipality took place on the 19th July 1959 and the new Council



has replaced the old one constituted on the 29th June 1955. Under the Act every municipality elects its own President and Vice-President from amongst the Councillors.

According to their status and financial position the municipalities make provisions for their staff in their respective budgets. The Chief Executive Officer and other Executive Officers, such as, Revenue Officer, Tax Inspector, Accountant, Overseer are appointed by the Inspector General of Municipalities and the rest by the municipality under section 43 of the Madhya Bharat Municipal Act, 1954. There are rules and bye-laws for guiding the work of the municipalities.

The municipalities are authorised to sanction their own budgets, if they are balanced. The unbalanced budgets and the budgets of the indebted municipalities have to be sanctioned by the Inspector General of Municipalities. The statement below shows the income and expenditure of the three municipalities during the years 1953-54 to 1959-60:—

**Statement Showing the Income and Expenditure of the Municipalities of Dabra, Bhandar and Pichhore.**

Year	Dabra		Bhandar		Pichhore	
	Income (In Rupees)	Expenditure (In Rupees)	Income (In Rupees)	Expenditure (In Rupees)	Income (In Rupees)	Expenditure (In Rupees)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1953-54	58,834.67	50,897.77	10,736.95	11,816.62	7,731.15	7,656.06
1954-55	66,849.59	59,524.65	10,699.23	8,414.59	8,386.37	11,081.91
1955-56	71,763.83	66,200.92	15,468.45	14,034.41	16,427.06	18,474.26
1956-57	1,10,759.39	78,691.69	16,849.83	15,240.10	26,706.02	10,726.44
1957-58	1,41,041.73	84,324.35	26,563.73	18,954.57	18,824.09	5,142.23
1958-59	1,47,181.30	1,75,690.49	25,528.43	19,933.70	22,371.27	13,933.90
1959-60	1,61,491.12	1,20,095.29	32,453.16	23,428.97	25,613.63	25,255.29

Source:—Office of the Inspector General of Municipalities, Gwalior.

The main functions of these municipalities are to make adequate provision within their areas for lighting, sanitation, public vaccination and other essential civil amenities, such as parks, public lavatories etc. Their sources of income are taxes, fees, rents etc. The main taxes that can be levied by these municipalities are house tax, octroi, professional tax, terminal tax, wheel tax, etc. It will be evident from the table of income and expenditure above that the income of all these municipalities has been steadily rising. Under the Municipalities Act, 1954, those municipalities whose annual income exceeds Rs. 75,000 are categorised as Class I municipalities. Accordingly, Dabra Municipality has been raised to the status of First Class Municipality.

#### TOWN IMPROVEMENT

During the year 1917-18, Madhav Rao Sindhia decided to prepare a scheme for town improvement and further extension of the city, as a result of which the Town Improvement Act was introduced in Lashkar during the same year,



and the widening and improving the road and bridge at Jinsi in Lashkar was started. As there was no provision in the Gwalior Land Acquisition Act relating to the acquisition of land by the Municipal Board, the Act was amended during the year 1920, and it was provided that the Chairman of the Board should act as the Land Acquisition Officer in such cases and that appeals against his awards of compensation should lie to the *Prant* Judge, who exercised powers similar to those of Sessions and District Judge.

The Town Improvement Trust, constituted under the Act, was also responsible for preparing town extension schemes to prevent haphazard development of places which were growing rapidly. It carried out surveys of places in the town to obtain reliable material on which the preparation of tentative master plans could be undertaken for town extension, improvement and water-supply, drainage works, roads and housing. After the formation of Madhya Bharat, the Madhya Bharat Town Improvement Trust Act, 1956, was passed and the Gwalior Improvement Trust was formed under the Act. The Collector, Gwalior, is the ex-officio Chairman of the Trust, which includes the Mayor and two members of the Corporation and three members from the public, as its members. It has a permanent Secretary and an Engineer to assist in its work.

The Improvement Trust has undertaken several schemes for developing the environs of the city so as to provide for the increasing population and the growing demand for accommodation with the necessary amenities, such as, water-supply, sanitation and roads, etc. The following are some of these schemes:—

**Old Hathikhana Development Schemes.**—This area situated on the New Road, Lashkar, which had been an insanitary spot was taken up for development. The Town Improvement Trust drew up a scheme for developing the land for house construction and for laying roads, open drains, sewerlines and water mains etc. Thus 30 plots were made available for houses which have been sold to the public and the construction of houses has been completed.

**Dufferin Sarai and Statue of Jhansi ki Rani Development Schemes.**—This piece of land, which is in the neighbourhood of the Memorial to the Rani of Jhansi, has been taken up by the Trust for development and it has been laid out attractively, with all the amenities of modern life.

Another stretch of land situated by the side of Gwalior Road which goes from Phool Bagh to Noorganj, Gwalior, has been taken up for proper development and for building sites. With the building up of this area the towns of old Gwalior and Lashkar have been linked with each other.

**Sardar Garud Saheb's Bada Development Schemes.**—The land situated behind the High Court Buildings, Lashkar, had been used for cultivation, and led to insanitary conditions in the centre of the city.



Therefore, a scheme for developing this land for the expansion of the city was prepared and has been carried out. The amount spent on these schemes is Rs. 3,74,988. Besides, the Trust has three other schemes—the development scheme of Lalitpur area behind Victoria College, the development scheme of Champa Bagh land situated on the New Road, Lashkar, and the development scheme of the land between Gandhi Road and Station Road at Race Course, Gwalior. Further, a scheme for the development of model town on Jhansi Road has also been sanctioned and is under execution.

### PUBLIC HEALTH

**Water Works.**—The Irwin Power House at Motijheel, situated at a distance of about five miles from Lashkar, and designed to serve the double purpose of supplying water and electric power to the three towns of Lashkar, Gwalior and Morar was completed in the year 1930, and the supply of water to consumers was started in the month of April of the same year. By the end of the year 1930-31 about 1,450 private connections were effected, and in 1933, additional water mains were laid in Lashkar, Gwalior and Morar and the number of private connections increased to about 2,500. During the year 1932-33, a cooling tank was added to the Power House to ensure continued operation. The Water Works, maintained by the Municipal Board up to 17th September 1932, were transferred to the Commerce Department of the State Government and was placed under the technical control of the Executive Engineer. The duty of running the Water-Works was entrusted to the Electric Supply Co., Lashkar, during the same year. The position now is that the Water Works are under the control of the Public Health Engineering Department and the Executive Engineer, Gwalior, holds it in his jurisdiction. The source of water-supply is the Tigra Reservoir situated at a distance of 11 miles from Motijheel, whence the water is brought through a canal. The canal water is first filtered by means of a rapid gravity filtration plant, and to safeguard against water-borne diseases, the filtered water is further treated with chlorine gas generated on the spot by electrolysis. The filtered water is then pumped to a height of about 220 feet into a service reservoir on Rakkas Hill and distributed to the city by gravitation through steel and cast iron pipes of two main branches—one leading to the city of Lashkar and the other to Morar via Gwalior, including the Mill area. The power for the pump is supplied from the Irwin Power House located nearby in which the High Lift Pumping sets are installed. The scheme was designed originally for a total population of 1,50,000 at the rate of supply of 30 gallons per capita per day. The capacity of the reservoir was 4.5 million gallons which was sufficient for one day's supply. With the increase in population, the improvement and extension work of the Water Works were undertaken during the year 1938-39, 1943, 1950, and in the First Five Year Plan period more filters were added and a reserve tank of about 40 million gallons' capacity was constructed, which has a capacity of storing raw water for meeting the demand for about five days in cases of canal closures or breaches etc. A high level R. C. C.



reservoir of five lakh gallons' capacity near Gorkhi was also constructed. Apart from this, the 24" main, supplying Lashkar area, was replaced by a 30" main upto Hanuman Chowkhatta, and various sizes of additional mains laid throughout Greater Gwalior.

After these additions and improvements the capacity of the plant has been increased and now it is just enough to provide a supply of 30 gallons per capita per day for a total population of three lakhs. About 7.5 million gallons of water is being pumped daily and supplied regularly to about 12,000 connections.

**Drainage:**—The Municipal drainage system in Gwalior was substantially completed in 1935 when a scheme costing Rs. 27,35,859 was executed. The drainage scheme included the construction of open drains and underground sewers in about 125 miles length, 31 penstock gates and disposal plant including pumping pit, sludge elevators and screens. This system was supplemented from time to time to meet the requirements of the further growth of the city.

### District and Pargana Boards

The local bodies, known as District Board and Pargana Board, were instituted in Gird district in the year 1919 at the district and pargana levels, with a view to securing the association of local representatives and leading non-officials, and enlisting their cooperation in such matters of administration as directly affected the material well being of the people. The *Suba* (District Collector) was the President of the District Board, while the *Tahsildars* were the Presidents of the Pargana (Local) Boards within their jurisdiction. But the majority of the Boards had a sterile existence and they were not able even to utilise the full amount of Government grant. They were, therefore, transferred under the Rural Welfare and Local Self-Government Department, under Durbar Order dated the 10th October, 1940. This department constituted a Central Rural Uplift Board to supervise these boards; but this change also apparently served little purpose. Ultimately, the Central Board also was dissolved during May, 1948, after the establishment of a high power 15 member Committee with the Minister for Rural Welfare and Local Self-Government as Chairman. The District and Pargana Boards were abolished after the implementation of the M. B. Panchayat Act, on 26th January 1952, throughout the whole State, and some of its functions and powers were entrusted to Village Panchayats. During their existence the Local Boards were responsible for the provision of potable water-supply, maintenance of cattle pounds, irrigation works, care of unclaimed and disabled cows, agricultural improvements and arrangements for local fairs.

### PANCHAYATS

The panchayat is the basic institution of Local Government and the foundation of all decentralised administration. We have reason to believe that these rural institutions flourished and reached a high degree of development in our country in ancient times and not only regulated the civic life of the village, but served to settle disputes by arbitration. During the British regime, the



panchayats suffered an eclipse, because the Government authority was vested in officials appointed by the Provincial or State Governments. The Princely rulers of Gwalior State, however, were among the few to realise that panchayats could still do useful work in the modern world and Maharaja Madhav Rao Sindhia ordered Panchayat Boards to be set up in the State in 1912. In the beginning, the Panchayat Boards were working under the Law Department; but they were transferred later to the Department of Rural Welfare and Local Self-Government on 10th October 1940. By that time these Boards had been functioning as active units under the administrative control of the District and Sessions Judge of the respective divisions subject to the jurisdictional control of the *Subas* (Collectors) and Tahsildars in their respective areas. By the time we got our Independence, the panchayat movement had considerably developed and the institution was handed down to the Madhya Bharat State. Immediately after the formation of the Madhya Bharat Union, the State Government gave considerable attention to the development of panchayats and with a view to achieving uniformity in this respect, brought into force the Madhya Bharat Panchayat Act, 1949, under which panchayats were effectively organised and entrusted with wider powers and functions. The panchayats organised under the above Act, started functioning from the 26th January, 1952. This Act is still in force in Gwalior district pending the enforcement of the recent Panchayat Legislation which was passed in 1961. At present, there are 169 Gram Panchayats, five Kendra Panchayats and one Mandal Panchayat in the district.

**Organization and Structure:**—The Madhya Bharat Panchayat Act, 1949, provides for a three-tier structure of the panchayats in the district. Under this arrangement there are, in Gwalior district, Gram Panchayats, Kendra Panchayats and Mandal Panchayat. A Gram Panchayat constituted for every village or a convenient group of villages forms the base of this edifice. The general rule in this respect is that the area of a Gram Panchayat should roughly coincide with the patwari *halka*. A Kendra Panchayat is established over a convenient group of Gram Panchayats, approximately in every National Extension Service Block, or, in case there are no National Extension Service Blocks in the area, its jurisdiction would roughly correspond to the area of a prospective block. A Mandal Panchayat was constituted at the district level and served as the apex of this structure.

The Gram Panchas are elected directly by the voters on the basis of adult franchise by secret ballot. The number of Panchas in a Gram Panchayat varies according to the population, subject to the minimum of five and maximum of 15, there being one member for approximately every 200 persons. Seats for Harijans and Adivasis are reserved in proportion to their number in the total number of voters. One Mahila Panch is also included in the panchayats. The term of a Gram Panchayat is three years. Panchas elect their Sarpanch and Up-sarpanch from amongst themselves and their term is also three years. The Sarpanchas preside over meetings, supervise the financial and administrative activities of the panchayat, collect taxes and make arrangement for the safety of panchayat property. They are empowered to take immediate action



in emergencies, such as, when epidemic prevails in the area, in anticipation of sanction.

The members of the Kendra Panchayat and Mandal Panchayat are indirectly elected. One representative from each Gram Panchayat is sent to its Kendra Panchayat and all Sarpanchas of Kendra Panchayats, besides two elected members from each Kendra Panchayat, are the members of the Mandal Panchayat. One Mahila and one Harijan are also co-opted as members of the Mandal Panchayat. At present, there are 17 members in the Mandal Panchayat of Gwalior.

**Nyaya Panchayat.**—With a view to providing the villages with cheaper, speedier and simpler justice and training them for the administration of justice, Nyaya Panchayats have also been established for an area of each Gram Sewak's Circle in the district. The number of members of a Nyaya Panchayat ranges from 5 to 11 and each member is elected for a population of 500. The term of a Nyaya Panchayat is one year, but it can continue to function until a new Nyaya Panchayat is duly constituted. The Panchas and the Sarpanch of a Nyaya Panchayat are elected by the Panchas of the Gram Panchayats of the area from amongst themselves. There are at present 33 Nyaya Panchayats functioning from the 26th January, 1952, in Gwalior district. The Nyaya Panchayats are authorised to hear civil cases involving sums up to rupees one hundred only and have also certain powers to hear criminal cases. The functions and working of these Nyaya Panchayats have been described in an earlier chapter.

**Functions and Powers.**—The functions of panchayats (excluding Nyaya Panchayats) are divided into two categories (i) obligatory, and (ii) discretionary. Municipal functions of an ordinary nature are classed as obligatory, such as, general conservancy, construction and maintenance of village roads, provision for potable water, regulating any new construction and removing possible encroachments, measures for preventing the spread of infectious and contagious diseases, supervision of burial and cremation grounds management of weekly markets, fire fighting arrangements, collecting and recording important statistics, e.g., births, deaths, marriages, cattle census, etc., management of cattle pounds, providing for adult education, agricultural improvement, cattle improvement, spread of cooperation, development of cottage and village industries and other work of a similar nature.

The functions which have a financial bearing and which are bound to vary according to local conditions are categorised as discretionary, such as management of *Sarais*, *Dharmashalas*, road-side plantations, street lighting, village libraries and reading rooms, clubs and *Vyayamshalas*, slaughter houses, public latrines and other similar works.

Functions similar in kind, but of a superior nature, are assigned to Kendra Panchayats and the Mandal Panchayat, the main function being that of co-ordinating, supervising and guiding the activities of the subordinate panchayats.



The following list will give an idea of the functions of Kendra Panchayats and the Mandal Panchayat:—

#### Kendra Panchayat

- (i) **Obligatory**.—Organisation for facilitating sale and purchase of goods, preparing plans for the around development of Kendra Panchayat area, construction of more important roads, etc.
- (ii) **Discretionary**.—Providing for the relief of destitutes, castration of animals, regulating the dangerous and injurious trades, dealing with cattle disposal, popularising improved seeds and improved agricultural implements etc.

#### Mandal Panchayat

- (i) **Obligatory**.—Management of Primary schools, hospitals, Veterinary hospitals (if such institutions are transferred by the Government); management of *ghats*, public ferries, fairs, agricultural and industrial shows, relief measures on the occasion of some natural calamities, famine or fire, and regulating markets and *hats*.
- (ii) **Discretionary**.—Management of leper asylums and homes for destitutes, blinds, crippled, lames, orphans, establishment of Maternity homes and Child Welfare Centres etc.

The budget of a Gram Panchayat is considered in the meeting of all the electors of the area before being submitted to the Kendra Panchayat. It is passed by the Deputy Collector of the concerned area.

There is an effective system of audit of accounts of panchayats, in the district, so that public money is not misused or frittered away. The accounts of the Mandal Panchayat are audited by the Local Fund Audit Department and those of the rest of the panchayats by the departmental auditors and sub-auditors. One auditor for the whole district and one sub-auditor for every block area have been provided by the department for the audit work.

#### Powers.—

- (1) The panchayats in performance of their duties are competent to direct any person to carry out their orders;
- (2) In case of non-compliance they may get the necessary work done and recover the expense so incurred from the persons concerned;
- (3) They may also impose the compounding fee for unauthorised constructions;
- (4) In case of disobedience of orders, they may inflict a fine upto Rs. 10 in one case, and if the act of disobedience continues, a further daily fine at the rate of not more than one rupee per day;
- (5) They may, if they so choose, refer such a case to the Nyaya Panchayat, if they think it is likely to have the desired deterrent effect;



**Financial Resources.—**

The following are the main sources of revenue:—

- (1) The proceeds of the different kinds of taxes;
- (2) The grants-in-aid by the Government;
- (3) The sale proceeds of dirt, dung or refuse, including dead cattle;
- (4) Amount of fines imposed and collected;
- (5) Amounts placed at the credit of the Panchayats under the order of the court.

**Categories of Taxes.**—The taxes to be levied by the panchayats are also categorised as obligatory and discretionary. Taxes on land revenue, buildings and labour are the only obligatory taxes. A cess on land revenue or rent of land, as assessed at the rate of half an anna per rupee by every holder of land is collected by the Government through the Revenue Department and paid to the Directorate of Panchayats for distribution. The whole amount is distributed among the Gram Panchayats in proportion to the amount of land revenue realised from their respective villages.

A tax on all buildings is to be assessed by the concerning Gram Panchayat within the maximum and minimum limits fixed by the Directorate of Panchayats. But it is realisable only in those cases where the amount of the tax on building exceeds that of the cess on land revenue or rent of land and only to the extent of the excess amount.

A labour tax is to be paid by every able-bodied male villager of 21 years to 50 years of age at the rate of five days' labour in one year. Eight hours labour constitutes one day. It is to be paid in the form of labour; but if a person desires to pay it in cash, he is required to pay double the amount of equivalent wages determined by the Gram Panchayat.

**Discretionary Taxes.**—The discretionary taxes can be levied by the Gram Panchayats, Kendra Panchayats or Mandal Panchayat only with the prior sanction of the Government. To name but a few of these taxes, tolls on vehicles plying for hire and on pack animals; fees on registering the sales of animals in any market or fair; fees for *Sarais*, *Dharmashalas* and rest houses; wheel tax, water rate, lighting rate, drainage fee, licence fee on brokers, commission agents etc., and other taxes of similar nature. The same tax cannot be levied simultaneously by two types of panchayats within the same area, and if such an occasion arises, the tax imposed by the superior panchayat remains operative and that imposed by the subordinate panchayats is automatically cancelled. Besides, panchayats get some revenue from periodical fairs and markets held within their area.

**Grant-in-aid by the Government.**—The Government is required to pay an annual grant in aid to the panchayats at the rate of half an anna per rupee on the amount of the total land revenue assessed in the preceding year. This



amount is divided in three equal parts, one part goes to the Mandal Panchayat, one to the Kendra Panchayats and one to the Gram Panchayats. Besides, Government gives 50 per cent grant for all development works and 75 per cent grant for water-supply schemes, and 50 per cent grant is received from the Panchayat Department for development works. A suitable grant is also sanctioned in the beginning to the panchayats to enable them to meet their initial expenses.

**Development Schemes.**—In the sphere of local development schemes, the panchayats are entitled, by their very nature, to play a significant part, particularly in evoking voluntary participation by the villagers in terms of labour or cash contribution in the different construction works. The Gram Panchayats in Gwalior district have shown satisfactory results in this respect during the First Five Year Plan and in the Second Plan. They carried out the construction of 214 wells for which State Government contributed Rs. 1,47,357 during the First Plan. They also built 30 panchayat bhavans and 22 school buildings. For these works Government assistance to the extent of 50 per cent was paid to the panchayats. They also completed the construction of 19 village roads for which Government gave a contribution of Rs. 1,56,050, and built 16 bridges and culverts. Some notable roads completed by the Gram Panchayats were the Rani Ghati road, which was completed during 1959 with voluntary labour by the people and grant from Government. Another road, the Gijora Ghati road was constructed through difficult terrain largely through the labour of the villagers led by the local Gram Panchayats.

सत्यमेव जयते



## CHAPTER XIII

### EDUCATION AND CULTURE

The story of the educational development in Gwalior goes as far back as the beginning of the eighth century A. D. There are references in ancient literature which suggest that there existed a University at Padmavati (modern Padam-Pawaya) which had a reputation for learning and scholarship. A historical allusion to it occurs in *Mallī Madhav* of Bhavabhūti, the renowned Sanskrit dramatist, who is believed to have lived in the early years of the eighth century A. D.<sup>1</sup> The play tells us that Madhav (the hero of the play) was sent to Padmavati by his father from Kundinapura, a town in Vidarbha, where he was a minister of the local king, to study the science of logic (*anvishikiyā*). This would show that, if the Padmavati referred to is the same as the one identified in Gwalior district, in Bhavabhūti's time the area near the present Gwalior was an important seat of learning, to which students flocked even from distant parts of the country.

No further evidence is available in historical works to denote the type and extent of educational institutions in the ancient times. But Gwalior may be presumed to have retained its intellectual position for it emerges again as a place of culture towards the close of the 14th century under the Tomara rulers.

The founder of Tomara dynasty was Bir Singh Deo (1398 A. D.) who is reputed to be a learned man. Virama Deo, the third in the line of succession, encouraged art and letters. His interest in literature is evident from the patronage extended to authors of repute and merit. The most shining light in his literary coterie was Nayachandra Suri, who composed an epic poem devoted to a fulsome panegyric of the redoubtable Rajput chieftain Hammira Deo. Some of the other Jain writers, notably Svayambhu and Pushpadanta, have also left us some literary works. The ruler appears not only to have patronised literature himself, but also stimulated patronage in others. His example was emulated by his nobility and one of his ministers, Kushraj Jain, got an epic written in Sanskrit by Padmanabha, a Kayastha by caste. His reign is further remembered for the impetus given to education by the rise of Jainism in Gwalior and Sonagiri, situated close by.

The next ruler, Dungar Singh Tomara, was not only great in warlike exploits but equally great in the arts of peace, which 'hath her victories no less renowned than war'. During his time there lived at Gwalior a renowned *Apabhramsa* writer Padmavatipuraval Raidhu, who has composed about forty works. Other writers of note were Vibudh-Sridhar, and Thalu Kayastha, who have written *Bhavishyadattacharita* and *Sukumalcharita*, respectively.

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1. Archaeological Survey of India, Annual Report 1915-16, p. 101; also M. B. Garde, Padmavati, p. 6.



Kalyan Singh, who succeeded Dungar Singh, showed promise not only of brilliant attainments but also of an enlightened educational policy. His name is generally associated with the authorship of *Anangrang*, a well-known work on eroticism but his authorship of this work is not free from doubt, and one cannot exclude the possibility that some literary protege may have lent an obliging hand in writing it.

The doyen of this dynasty was Raja Man Singh, whose claim to be remembered rests not merely on the fact that he considerably strengthened his patrimony, but still more on the enlightened character of his government and his liberal patronage of learning. The Tomara chieftain was a connoisseur of music and Gwalior became pre-eminent as the home of music and the arts and the seat of some of the finest musicians of India. His death plunged the region into anarchy and disorder that transferred the sceptre from Tomaras to Muslims.

The Sultans of Delhi, and even their successors, the Mughuls, continued the good tradition. As elsewhere, education during this period was more or less in the hands of religious leaders and institutions. The seats of higher learning, called *Madarsas* were essentially schools of theology, with auxiliary linguistic studies. It is mentioned that Babur paid a visit to the *Madarsa* of Rahimdad, the Lodi governor of Gwalior fort.<sup>1</sup> Besides the *Madarsas*, there existed *Maktabas* to provide primary and lower secondary education. Such schools, according to Della Valle, were found in almost every town and village in the time of Jahangir. With the advent of Muslims in Gwalior, the city became a seat of Islamic religious learning. Muhammad Ghaus, whose mausoleum stands near the hill fortress and attracts a large number of pilgrims, was the most celebrated *Sufi* saint of his time. His fame as a teacher was widespread and his disciples included well-known celebrities like Tansen.

The historic city seems to have retained its position of pre-eminence in the cultural sphere till the end of the Mughul period, after which its political destiny was guided by the Sindhias. In the time of Aurangzeb it was apparently one of the greatest centres of culture in the whole of the northern India, for Faqirullah Khan, the Mughul Governor of Kashmir, has idealised Gwalior in the musical treatise *Ragdarpan* describing it as the 'Shiraz of India'.<sup>2</sup>

From this necessarily short and sketchy account one fact emerges clearly, that even in the ancient and medieval periods there existed a tradition of education and culture in Gwalior district. As one enters the dawn of the modern period, there is a certain degree of unsettlement in the early Maratha period, and it is not clear how education thrived at that time. As elsewhere, education appears to have remained in the hands of religious leaders or institutions. But one factor which was destined to have a lasting influence on the entire structure of education in the country, namely, the rise of the British power could not but affect the shape of educational growth in these territories.

As the East India Company's trade and power grew and the Company insensibly began to transform itself from a trader into a ruler, the question of providing education for its subjects came up before the Directors. In 1813

1. Baburnama. Tr. by Beveridge, Vol. II, p. 610.

2. Dwivedi. H. D. Man Singh Aur Man Kutohal (Hindi). p. 91.



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The story of the educational development in Gwalior goes as far back as the beginning of the eighth century A. D. There are references in ancient literature which suggest that there existed a University at Padmavati (modern Padam-Pawaya) which had a reputation for learning and scholarship. A historical allusion to it occurs in *Malti Madhav* of Bhavabhuti, the renowned Sanskrit dramatist, who is believed to have lived in the early years of the eighth century A. D.<sup>1</sup> The play tells us that Madhav (the hero of the play) was sent to Padmavati by his father from Kundinapura, a town in Vidarbha, where he was a minister of the local king, to study the science of logic (*anvishikiividya*). This would show that, if the Padmavati referred to is the same as the one identified in Gwalior district, in Bhavabhuti's time the area near the present Gwalior was an important seat of learning, to which students flocked even from distant parts of the country.

No further evidence is available in historical works to denote the type and extent of educational institutions in the ancient times. But Gwalior may be presumed to have retained its intellectual position for it emerges again as a place of culture towards the close of the 14th century under the Tomara rulers.

The founder of Tomara dynasty was Bir Singh Deo (1398 A. D.) who is reputed to be a learned man. Virama Deo, the third in the line of succession, encouraged art and letters. His interest in literature is evident from the patronage extended to authors of repute and merit. The most shining light in his literary coterie was Nayachandra Suri, who composed an epic poem devoted to a fulsome panegyric of the redoubtable Rajput chieftain Hammira Deo. Some of the other Jain writers, notably Svayambhu and Pushpadanta, have also left us some literary works. The ruler appears not only to have patronised literature himself, but also stimulated patronage in others. His example was emulated by his nobility and one of his ministers, Kushraj Jain, got an epic written in Sanskrit by Padmanabha, a Kayastha by caste. His reign is further remembered for the impetus given to education by the rise of Jainism in Gwalior and Sonagiri, situated close by.

The next ruler, Dungar Singh Tomara, was not only great in warlike exploits but equally great in the arts of peace, which 'hath her victories no less renowned than war'. During his time there lived at Gwalior a renowned *Apabhramsa* writer Padmavatipuraval Raidhu, who has composed about forty works. Other writers of note were Vibudh-Sridhar, and Thalu Kayastha, who have written *Bhavishyadattacharita* and *Sukumalcharita*, respectively.

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1. Archaeological Survey of India, Annual Report 1915-16, p. 101; also M. B. Garde, Padmavati, p. 6.



In 1886 Jayaji Rao died, leaving the administration to the care of a Council of Regency (1886-94) during the minority of his son Madhav Rao Sindhia. Nawab Ghulam Ahmad Ahmadi was then the Member of Council for Education, and in March 1885 he appointed Pandit Prannath, who was then serving in the Canning College, Lucknow, to consider the expansion and the raising of the status of the Lashkar School. Pandit Prannath submitted his report on 10th July 1887, and, as a consequence, the institution was upgraded into a High School in the next year. The first batch of candidates was sent for the Middle Examination in 1887, and the first batch of students for the Entrance Examination of the Allahabad University in 1889. Next year at the request of Sir Lepel Griffin, Agent to the Governor General, Lashkar Madarsa was raised to an Intermediate College and the first batch of candidates for that examination appeared in 1892. Meanwhile the foundation-stone for a new building was laid in 1887, and to commemorate the Silver Jubilee of Queen Victoria, the college was named after her. It was Lord Curzon who declared the building formally open in 1899, by which time degree classes had been opened in the college.

It was about this time that the Council of Regency passed an Educational Manual which divided the State into two circles, the northern circle comprising Gwalior and Esagarh and the southern circle including Malwa Prant. The former was placed directly under the charge of the Education Department, while Principal Dhekne of Madhav College, Ujjain, looked after the southern circle under the supervision of Sir Michael Filose, then acting as *Sar Suba* of Malwa. The schools were further categorised into four grades, namely, the Lower Primary, Upper Primary, Anglo-Vernacular and High School. For purposes of supervision of these schools Inspectors were appointed. Boarding houses were also established, where necessary.

The 31 years between the assumption of ruling powers by Madhav Rao Sindhia in 1894 and his death in Paris in 1925 form an important period in the history of education in the district. This was a period both of quantitative expansion in education and of experiments in its form and content. Some of the experiments were important, if not for their lasting achievements, at least for the impetus and a new start they gave to general education.

The first in chronology was the creation of a new office of the Inspector-General of Education in 1895, to which Mr. J.W.D. Johnstone of the Indian Education Service was appointed. Next followed in September, 1898, the opening of the Sardars School for the education of the sons of the State aristocracy. A little later, another institution called the Military School was started in Kampoo Kothi to impart instruction in military work. Subsequently, in 1909-10, the Military School amalgamated with the Sardars School when it was shifted from Jalvihar to the Gwalior fort.

Besides these, a Service School was started in 1900-01 in order to equip the state services with trained personnel. This institution was divided into different sections or classes on the basis of the category of service personnel for



whom they were intended, such as, Clerical classes, Police classes, Postal classes, **Kanungo and Patwari classes**, and **Custom Training classes** etc. In order to give them practical experience in the field, Susera village was constituted the headquarters of a miniature *Suba* or district and seven villages in the vicinity were attached to it as tahsils. The Administration Report for 1900-01 says that 'the *Suba* resides at Susera, and has an office establishment sufficient for small district and each of the villages has a *Kamavisdar* and a *Naib-Kamavisdar*. They perform duties of Revenue, Judicial, Education, Census etc., usually performed by district officers within the limits of their respective villages'.

The year 1903 saw the opening of Regimental Schools at Lashkar and Morar. These were followed by 'self-supporting' schools in villages which were too small to have a regular school. Teaching in such schools was made the responsibility of the local priest paid by landlords. But this experiment did not prove fruitful mainly owing to the general apathy of the local people, with the result that by 1906 these schools began to wither away.

In 1905 a start was made in industrial education and a 'Technical Institute' was started at Gwalior.

Other reforms which owe their inception to Mr. Johnstone (1895-1911) were (1) a series of changes in the courses of study for Primary and Middle classes (2) the institution of a new examination whereby English Middle Examination of U. P. and Central India was replaced by the Gwalior State School Examinations in 1903, and (3) the introduction of moral education where teachers volunteered to take up this work.

Mr. Johnstone retired in May, 1911, and he was succeeded by Mr. H. M. Bull who laid more stress on rural education. In response to a growing demand for trained staff, he started a Normal School in 1912—the first of its kind in Gwalior district. His other achievements were the opening of an Ayurvedic School in 1915, and four years later another school for boys whose mother tongue was Marathi. This school expanded in course of time, and is now called Jiwaji Rao Intermediate College.

In succeeding years two vital decisions were taken concerning education. The vernacular education was made free in the State, while in schools where English was taught, only a nominal fee was charged. Equally significant was the other decision relating to the creation of a permanent 'Education Fund', which ensured the financing of the educational activities on a sound basis. This provided that expenditure of education in future should be charged to the interest accruing from the Education Fund, and three-fourths of the income thus derived was reserved for Primary education and one-fourth for grants to schools and other schemes.

No retrospect of education in Gwalior will be complete without quoting the views\* of Madhav Rao Sindhia on the aims of education. He says: "The essential characteristic of successful education is the inculcation of proper feelings. The product of such an education should be loyal to himself, to his

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\*Extracts from his speech delivered on 12nd April, 1911, at Victoria College.



country and to the Government under whose auspices he has received his education; respecting himself, by exerting his utmost honourably to do himself well in the world, respecting the cherished and honoured traditions of his country and living his life for the progress of his race and the benefit of his mother land."

As for the teachers, "the province of a teacher is not merely to enlighten the brain, but by his own example and habits, as well as by the exercise of sane judgement, nice discrimination, sweet tact and firm resolution to form the character of students and to make men of them."

During the time of the Regency (1925-36) Gwalior took further strides in the field of education. Different courses upto graduate standard were started in arts and science at Victoria College. Another noteworthy feature of this period was the opening of new schools by the State Jagirdars at Pahargarh, Pohri and other places.

In 1927 the library movement in the district received a fillip by the establishment of the Central Library. Six years later i.e., in 1933, the Sardars' School started in 1898, was recognised as a modern residential Public School and renamed Scindia School.

With the forties of this century we enter an era of many-sided expansion in the field of education, especially after the formation of Madhya Bharat and subsequently after the Reorganization of States in 1956. During the First and Second Five-Year Plans, education made rapid progress in the district and the story of this development will be told in the relevant sections that follow in this chapter.

**Organization and set up.**—The over-all control of educational activity in district, barring the collegiate and technical education, is in the administrative charge of a Deputy Director of Education who has jurisdiction over five districts, viz., Gwalior, Bhind, Morena, Shivpuri and Guna. Under him is one Inspector of Schools in each district, who controls and administers the educational institutions. In carrying out his duties of inspection and control, the Inspector of Schools is assisted by eight Assistant Inspectors who are responsible for the superintendence of Primary schools.

These officers look after all schools, except girl schools, which are under the charge of a Regional Inspectress for Girls Schools with headquarters at Gwalior. For administrative purposes she works under the direct control of the Deputy Director. In her work she is assisted by two Assistant Inspectresses of Schools who inspect Primary schools. The office of the Registrar, Departmental Examinations, is also located in Gwalior.

## LITERACY

The number of literates in Gwalior district according to the census of 1911 was 18,490 of whom 17,746 were males and 744 females. This gives a



percentage of 10.62 males as literate and 0.51 female literates, the total percentage of literates to the population being 5.91. According to 1921 census, there was a slight improvement both in respect of literacy among males and females, the former being 12.25 per cent and the latter 2.01 and the percentage of the literates to the total population being 7.60. Though these figures somewhat decreased in the next census enumeration of 1931, which revealed 12.36 males as literates and 1.98 females, the numbers showed an increase in subsequent census enumerations. In 1941 there were 17.55 per cent males and 4.65 per cent females enumerated as literate, while the corresponding figures for 1951 were 22.80 and 7.40 respectively.

According to the figures of the 1961 census, out of a population of 657,876 in Gwalior district, the number of literates was 183,336 of whom 137,989 were males and 45,347 were females, which give a percentage of 39.00 males, 14.91 for females, and the number of total literates being 27.87 per cent of the total population. The table below gives the position :—

Year	Population			No. of Literates			Percentage		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
1911	167084	145591	312675	17746	744	18490	10.62	0.51	5.91
1921	178371	148095	326466	21859	2979	24838	12.25	2.01	7.60
1931	197935	166871	364806	24480	3318	27798	12.36	1.98	7.62
1941	266969	226263	493232	46865	10536	57401	17.55	4.65	11.64
1951	280416	249893	530299	60931	18485	82416	22.80	7.40	15.51
1961	353813	304063	657876	137989	45347	183336	39.00	14.91	27.87

In the 1951 census report the livelihood classes have been broadly classified into two, agricultural and non-agricultural classes. If we examine the literacy and educational standards of all these classes, it makes a very interesting study. The statistics that follow give literacy by educational standards and livelihood classes in Gwalior district.

Educational Standard.	Agricultural classes		Non-Agricultural classes	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Literate, .. .. .	12,269	882	35,662	9,537
Middle Schools .. ..	774	57	6,602	908
Matric S.L.C. H. S. .. ..	218	30	5,214	394
Inter in Arts and Science .. ..	98	4	1,431	196
Graduates Art/Science .. ..	52	8	936	81
Post Graduates Arts/Science .. ..	36	..	248	23



	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Teaching .. .. .		8	..	157	50
Engineering .. .. .		2	..	44	1
Agriculture .. .. .		1	..	9	..
Veterinary .. .. .			..	7	..
Commerce .. .. .		26	..	112	1
Legal .. .. .		26	..	270	4
Medical .. .. .		7	..	111	9
Others .. .. .		40	5	334	166
Total:—All Educational Standards .. .. .		13,557	986	51,143	11,370

As regards literacy, the agricultural classes have very much lagged behind the non-agricultural classes. This was in a considerable degree due to their economic set-up. It is also apparent in the technical branches of education, like Engineering, Agriculture, Veterinary, Law, Commerce etc., where women seem to take no interest. The chief avocation for educated women appears to be that of a teacher and doctor.

**Women Education.**—The beginning of education for girls in Gwalior district could be traced to the closing years of the last century. Earlier, there is little evidence of there having been institutions for the formal education of girls in the district, though some traditional form of instruction may have continued to exist.

In the neighbouring British territories it was not till 1854 that the authorities realised that by encouraging female education, 'a far greater proportional impulse is imparted to the education and moral life of the people than by the education of men'.

To Pandit Prannath goes the credit of opening the first Girls School in Gwalior, sometime in August 1898, with a handful of girls on the roll. The number soon increased and the school was transferred to another site, now occupied by Janakganj hospital. The accommodation here, too, proved inadequate and Mr. Johnstone, the then Inspector-General of Education, shifted it to another building in the Sarkari Pichhadi bada where it was formally opened by the Ruler on 18th November, 1898, and was named Maharani Girls School. In the same year another girls school was opened at Morar.

These events synchronised with the inception of an organisation called the **Kanya Dharma Vardhini Sabha**. Like other societies, which rose in the wake of the Indian Renaissance, the Sabha was also a social service voluntary organisation in the beginning. In course of time it attracted State recognition, assistance and patronage.

The chief object of the Sabha was promotion of education among women which it attempted to serve in a variety of ways. It published text books



written by distinguished authors. It provided inducement to girls by offering rewards, and according to an approved scale, Rs. 30 were given for the marriage of girls who had passed Prathmic examination and Rs. 50 for the marriage of a matriculate girl. A quarterly magazine called *Mahila*, devoted to topics of feminine interest, was started. It sponsored a Home Female Education Scheme with the object of providing education for adult *purdanasheen* women. It also did considerable pioneering work in opening a chain of schools, and one of such schools established in 1898, later came to be known as the Kamla Raje Girls College. In 1900-01 the post of a Lady Superintendent of Girls School was created, and its first incumbent was Miss Florence Hope Tasca. She arranged to get a trained teacher from N. W. Provinces appointed in each of the Girls Schools at Gwalior and Morar. Next year a girls school was opened at Bhandar.

At about this time there occurred a clear downward trend in women's education in the district, for instance, the number of school-going girls in the Maharani School alone decreased by over 100 girls. The Administration Report (1901-02) says that this was 'chiefly owing to the discontinuance of the previous practice of giving every girl a prize or present and those who have remained are anxious to learn even without such material rewards.' The Government, assisted by the Kanya Dharma Vardhini, Sabha, took vigorous action to retrieve the position. Public meetings were held and exhibitions of the handicraft on work done by girls were arranged. Leading citizens from different localities were associated with the Sabha in the hope that they would induce people of their respective locality to send their daughters to school. Steps were also taken to improve education in all its aspects. Attention was first paid to primary stage, and the kindergarten system of education was introduced in Lashkar, Morar and Gwalior Schools. One curious device that was adopted to induce better attendance in the girls' schools was to give cash rewards to maid servants who succeeded in bringing the largest number of girls to school. Besides these, a few teachers were asked to educate their wives with an assurance that they would be given all facilities if they succeeded in starting a girls school. In addition to these measures a new society, named Shri Shiksha Pracharini Sabha, mainly composed of teachers, was formed in 1907 for the promotion of education amongst women.

A reference should be made in this context to the work done by another institution, the Adhyapika Shikshana Shala, which was originally a Widows' Training class attached to the Maharani Girls School. This was later converted into an independent institution, the Sewa Sadan, on 11th July 1914. Subsequently the name was changed and the Sadan was again called Adhyapika Shikshana Shala. The institution provided training to women and held two examinations which were later managed by the Education Department.

In July, 1912, Pandit Prannath was appointed as Deputy Inspector-General of Education and was specially entrusted with women's education with a budgetted grant of Rs. 60,000 per annum. He did valuable service for the



cause of women's education. During his time all the districts had at least a **girls school, and higher examinations in some of them were also introduced.** As mark of recognition of his services he was given the title of *Sabha-bhusan* and when he retired, the Sabha decided to perpetuate his memory by naming the first girls boarding house after him.

In the meantime momentous changes in political field brought about a general awakening among the masses. This accelerated the pace of female education in Gwalior as shown by the increase in number of institutions and students. In 1947, there were 27 Primary schools, four Middle schools, two High schools, one Degree college exclusively devoted to girls. By 1956, 71 new Primary schools were opened and two Primary schools were raised to the Middle school. The amount spent in construction of schools etc., was Rs. 62,068.

In the Second Plan period two new Primary schools were opened, five Primary schools and one Middle School were up-graded, and six Girls High Schools and one Middle school in Dabra were converted into Higher Secondary schools. One of the projects in the building programme completed during this period was the construction of quarters at a cost of Rs. 17,500.

The following table shows the growth of female education in Gwalior district since 1947 :—

Scheme	1947		1951		1956		1961	
	Institu- tions	Pupils	Institu- tions	Pupils	Institu- tions	Pupils	Institu- tions	Pupils
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
1. Primary Education (including nursery classes)	27	2,711	41	5,605	107	10,683	108	1,471
2. Secondary Education	6	658	10	1,287	13	1,383	16	3,372
3. Collegiate Education	1	73	1	154	1	640	1	722

**Spread of Education among Backward Classes and Tribes.**—Though the social disabilities of backward sections of society have attracted the attention of reformers for sometime, it is only in fairly recent times that organised efforts were made to remove them. As a consequence of the social and political awakening that began in the early part of the century, mainly under the inspired leadership of Gandhiji, a movement for the emancipation of the backward and socially handicapped classes spread all over the country.

As early as 1911, the Gwalior Durbar took steps in the direction of providing facilities for the education of these classes. Facilities were provided for the education of the backward tribes and castes by opening Harijan and Adivasi



schools including a girls school at Lashkar. Demands for extension of educational facilities grew with each succeeding year and became more insistent after the attainment of independence. In 1948 all Harijan and Adivasi students were granted full fee concession in government schools. They were also given stipends for the purchase of books, stationery etc., and for the payment of examination fees.

During 1954-56 a grant of Rs. 14,000 was given to the Scindia School for the education of Harijan and Adivasi children. From 1956-57, seven students were being provided free education under this scheme, for which the Scindia School was given an annual grant of Rs. 11,200.

The statement below gives particulars of the number of scholarship-holders and the annual expenditure incurred during the years 1958-61 :—

Year	Number of scholarship holders			Expenditure (In Rupees)		
	Primary Stage	Secondary Stage	Collegiate Stage	Primary Stage	Secondary Stage	Collegiate Stage
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1958-59	283	1,191	50	2,404	79,549	17,421
1959-60	507	1,309	N. A.	3,696	70,814	N. A.
1960-61	635	1,532	164	4,702	96,796	23,119

Source —District Inspector of Schools, Gwalior.

### GENERAL EDUCATION

The progress in the number of educational institutions and in the number of students enrolled in all categories of schools and colleges during the period 1947-1961, is shown in the table given below :—

Schemes	Number of Institutions				Number of Students			
	1947	1951	1956	1961	1947	1951	1956	1961
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
1. Primary Education (including nursery classes)	297	282	622	718	14,277	20,848	31,766	53,112
2. Secondary Education	26	30	59	94	5,017	5,988	9,233	15,365
3. Collegiate Education	2	2	2	4	363	739	1,508	2,554
4. Technical .. ..	2	1	2	3	60	75	249	626
5. Miscellaneous ..	10	11	15	17	808	1,480	1,526	2,269

Source : —District Inspector of Schools, Gwalior.



**Pre-Primary Education.**—Pre-Primary schools provide educational facilities for children up to the age of six years. Since 1947 the growth of Pre-Primary education has recorded a steady progress. In 1947 there were two nursery schools with 106 pupils and eight teachers; in 1961 the number stood at 22,2176 and 95 respectively, and the expenditure increased from Rs. 12.80 to Rs. 157.40 thousands.

**Primary Education (I to V class).**—Under the Madhya Bharat Municipal Corporation Act, the Gwalior Corporation is responsible for the establishment and maintenance of Primary schools within the municipal limits. But since the Corporation was established in 1956, it has not yet started discharging these duties. Consequently the majority of the Primary schools in Gwalior are still managed by the Government. Private enterprise is also encouraged and the number of aided institutions in 1961 was 26. The Primary education has made rapid strides in recent times and this is shown by the fact that while in 1947 there were 295 schools with an enrolment of 14,171 pupils, the number rose in 1956 to 612 schools and 31,189 pupils, and in 1961 to 696 schools and 50,936 pupils, with a total expenditure of Rs. 15.12 lakhs. There had been a corresponding increase in the number of teachers. In the year 1961 there were 1,612 teachers as against 1,031 in 1956, and 618 in 1947.

The teacher-pupil ratio, as it stood in Primary stage in 1960-61, was 1 to 31.

**Compulsory Primary Education Scheme.**—The Constitution of India enjoins on each State the obligation to introduce free and compulsory education for all children. The objectives that have prompted the educational policy in this respect have been summarized in what was described as a Charter for education in the former Madhya Pradesh State.

“An endeavour shall be made to provide every child with a satisfactory education. This education should be such as to guarantee the child the opportunity to develop and maintain a healthy body and balanced personality, to acquire skills needed as tools of learning, to get a good start in understanding and appreciating nature and the social world, to participate happily in home and community life, to work and play with others, and to enjoy and use music, art, literature and handicrafts.”

The initial efforts in this direction resulted in the enactment of Madhya Bharat Compulsory Primary Education Act (No. 64 of 1949), and as a consequence the compulsory education was introduced in selected areas. At present two pilot projects are working in and round about Gwalior and Dabra. To ensure proper attendance, Attendance Officers have been appointed.



The statistical position of compulsory education during the quinquennium 1956-61 is shown below:—

year	Institutions	Enrolment			Staff		Expenditure (in lakhs. Rs.)
		Boys	Girls	Total	Male	Female	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1956-57	213	10,264	449	10,713	389	—	3.54
1957-58	213	11,599	411	12,010	392	—	3.28
1958-59	213	11,723	432	12,155	398	—	3.30
1959-60	213	12,286	364	13,150	399	10	3.50
1960-61	213*	13,325	1,897	15,222	443	24	3.60

\* Of the 213 schools in 1960-61, 127 were single-teacher schools.

The foregoing table shows that the quantitative progress of compulsory education has been tardy. This is owing partly to the absence of total compulsion and partly to the financial limitations. According to an estimate only 43,450 out of 66,287 children were enrolled in 1958. The percentage of children in school as compared to the total number of children in the age-group 6-11 was 65.54.

**Basic Education.**—Basic education, which is an adaptation of the Wardha Scheme put forward by Mahatma Gandhi in 1937, is now accepted by the Government as the approved pattern of primary and middle school education throughout the State, and all existing schools are being gradually transformed into Basic schools (Junior Basic from 6 to 11 and Senior Basic from 12 to 14 years of age). The Basic system sets out an activity curriculum in which learning is correlated with a skilled vocation like spinning and weaving, gardening, carpentry, book-craft, leather-work and domestic craft etc. The conversion of the existing Primary schools into Basic, the opening of new Basic schools, the introduction of creative activity into the curriculum, the preparation of suitable literature, and above all, orientation of teachers in the ideology and methods of Basic education, are being carried out according to the recommendations of the State Board for Basic Education appointed in 1958.

In Gwalior district there were, in 1959-60, 88 Junior Basic schools with 184 teachers in charge of 5,416 boys and 349 girls, and involving an expenditure of Rs. 2.10 lakhs. The number of Basic trained teachers was 131.

**Secondary Education.**—The Secondary stage (class VI to XI) covers various types of institutions—Middle school, High school, Higher Secondary school, and Intermediate college. In accordance with the recommendations of the Secondary Education Commission steps were taken to convert all High



schools into Higher Secondary schools and upgrade Intermediate colleges to degree colleges in the State. Accordingly there are only one High school and two Intermediate colleges now left in the district. The details of the growth of Secondary education are given below :—

Stage	1947		1951		1956		1961	
	Institu- tions	Pupils	Institu- tions	Pupils	Institu- tions	Pupils	Institu- tion	Pupils
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Middle School .. ..	20	4,225	22	3,868	43	5,396	67	8,627
High School .. ..	5	729	6	1,678	13	2,689	1	175
Higher Secondary/Multi- purpose Higher Second- ary School. .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24	6,378
Inter College .. ..	1	63	2	442	3	1,148	2	185

In the year 1960-61 there were, in Gwalior district, 94 Secondary schools with an enrolment of 15,365 (11,993 boys; 3,372 girls). The number of schools run by the private bodies was 24.

The number of teachers in Secondary schools was 1,588, of whom 1,056 were men (338 trained ; 718 untrained) and 532 women (199 trained ; 333 untrained). The teacher-pupil ratio was 1 to 9, and the total expenditure on Secondary education was Rs. 33.02 lakhs.

In the sphere of Secondary education two private institutions deserve special mention. The Scindia School, situated on the hill fortress of Gwalior, is a residential school for boys with a provision for education up to the Intermediate stage. Originally founded by Madhav Rao Sindhia in 1867, the school was completely re-organised in 1933 to enable it to incorporate the more important and healthier features of the English Public schools and to integrate that education with the Indian environment. Since then, the school has grown in size and scope of work so that it now has five sections and 450 boys on the roll, offering rich opportunities for the many-sided development of the students' personality. Managed by a Board of Governors, it is affiliated to the Madhya Pradesh Board of Secondary Education and is also placed in the list of approved schools of the Cambridge University Syndicate. It happens to be one of the founder members of the Indian Public Schools' Conference held in 1939.

The other institution, Scindia Kanya Vidyalaya, functioning since 1956, is a residential school for girls and is managed by the Scindia Education Society. It prepares girls for Higher Secondary Examinations through Hindi medium and Senior Cambridge through English medium.

**Training of Teachers.**—Prior to the formation of Madhya Bharat in 1948 there was only one institution for training of teachers in Gwalior district. With



the steady increase in enrolment the need for more trained teachers was felt, and this led to a quickening of efforts to open new institutions, and by 1961, Gwalior had four training institutions with an annual intake capacity of about 375. At present there is one Post-graduate Basic Training College, one Basic Training College (Women) and two Basic Training Schools, one exclusively for men and the other for women.

The total number of teachers in 1960-61 was 3,262, of whom 1,707 were at the Primary and 1,555 at the Secondary stage. The number of trained teachers at both stages was 780 and 584 respectively. Thus the trained staff works out to about 41 per cent of the total number of teachers.

**National Cadet Corps, Scouting and Auxiliary Cadet Corps.**—The N.C.C. Scheme, which began with 154 members in M.L.B. College in 1949, has made steady progress. The A.C.C. Scheme, in 1960-61, covered nine institutions and had 90 trained teachers (66 men; 24 women) and 4,542 cadets (3,507 boys; 1,035 girls). In the same year there were in the district 500 Boy Scouts and 500 Girl Guides.

**Collegiate Education.**—Since 1947 the progress of Collegiate education in Gwalior has been substantial. There has been an increase of 150 per cent in the number of institutions, 603 per cent increase in enrolment—from 363 in 1947 to 2,554 in 1960—and 798 per cent increase in the annual expenditure—from Rs. 1.57 to 14.15 lakhs—during the same period. There are at present five Colleges, three government and two private, affiliated to the **Vikram University, Ujjain.**

**Maharani Laxmi Bai College, Gwalior.**—The Maharani Laxmi Bai College, Gwalior, as it is known today or Victoria College as it was formerly known, has had an eventful history stretching over a period of 115 years. It began as the Lashkar *Madarsa* which was first housed in Khasgi-wala's bada in 1846, and then after first shifting to Lagad Sahib's bada it was finally built as Janakganj School on the site where the present institution of that name stands. The foundation stone of the present building was laid, and the campus developed in 1887 in commemoration of the Silver Jubilee of Victoria, the Queen Empress. Designed by Harris and Lake, the State architects, the building represents a blending of the Indo-Saracenic style and illustrates exquisite carvings on the renowned Gwalior stone. It was formally opened along with the Jaya Arogya Hospital, on 30th November 1899, by Lord Curzon, the then Governor-General and Viceroy in India.

Its first Admission Register was opened on 2nd August 1887, and students were taught for the Entrance Examination. Two years later the University granted affiliation to the college for the Intermediate Examination and the first batch of candidates appeared in 1892. By the year 1893, the B.A. class was added, and in 1902 the first year of the B.Sc., was opened. For sometime from



1927 the science classes were shifted to Jinsi building, now housing the High Court. In 1931 the college started admitting girls also for the degree courses.

A special place was given to the teaching of languages in the college when in 1933 degree classes in Hindi, Marathi and Urdu were opened. The institution became a first grade college when post-graduate classes were opened in the principal Arts and Science subjects in July, 1948. In 1956-57 post-graduate instruction in Commerce was started. The college was named after Maharani Laxmi Bai of Jhansi to mark the centenary of that warrior-Queen in 1958.

This college which had started as a *Madarsa* with four students had on the roll more than 2,500 students studying different subjects, both Arts and Science. Early in 1961, the college was bifurcated—one teaching Arts and Commerce subjects, and the other teaching Science—because it was felt that too large a number of students in a single college was both unwieldy and detrimental to discipline.

**Kamla Raje Girls College, Gwalior.**—The Kamla Raje Girls College developed out of the Kampoo Model School, started in 1898 by the Kanya Dharam Vardhini Sabha as an indigenous private effort to educate women. It progressed rapidly under the fostering care of Pandit Prannath, who lived in the same building where this school was located. It was named Maharaj Kumari Kanya Pathshala in commemoration of the visit of princess Kamla Raje in November 1915, when she was only a child of 11 months. It became a High school in 1931-32 and six years later expanded into an Intermediate college. In 1939 it was permitted to start B. A. classes affiliated to the University of Agra. Although the College Section was upgraded, the High school section remained separate and was continued to be called Maharaj Kumari Girls High School till 1944-45 when it was re-designated as the Padma Vidyalya. In 1956 arrangements for the teaching of science subjects upto B.Sc., standard were made and hostel accommodation was also provided.

**Madhav Mahavidyalaya and Parvati Bai Gokhale Vigyan Mahavidyalaya.**—The Madhav Mahavidyalaya, which was originally known as P.G.V. Inter College, was raised to the status of a degree college in Arts, Commerce and Law in 1957. It is an aided institution managed by the Madhya Bharat Education Society, which also runs the Parvati Bai Gokhale Vigyan Mahavidyalaya and other institutions. This Society, formerly called the Gwalior Education Society, came into being in 1937 under the guidance of its founder Shri S. G. Gokhale, to whose munificence these institutions owed their birth.

Summing up the over-all picture of general education in Gwalior district, as it obtained in 1960-61, there were 816 educational institutions imparting instruction to 52,221 boys and 18,810 girls at a total cost of Rs. 63.87 lakhs.



## PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL INSTITUTIONS

The district has provision for a wide variety of professional and technical education. Classes in Law were started in Victoria College (now M.L.B. College) as early as 1893. The College provided instruction for the B.Com. degree and later the post-graduate classes for the M.Com. degree were also started.

**Medical Education.**—The Gajra Raja Medical College, Lashkar, was started by the late Maharaja Jiwaji Rao Sindhia to perpetuate the memory of his mother Maharani Gajra Raja. It provides instructions for the M.B.B.S., and post-graduate degree in Surgery, Medicine, Pathology, Pharmacology and Gynaecology and other subjects. The foundation stone of the college was laid on 21st November, 1945 by Lord Wavell, the then Viceroy in India. The college started functioning from the 1st August, 1946, but the new building was occupied only after the opening ceremony was performed by the late Vallabhbhai Patel in December 1948. There are 12 departments, *viz.*, Anatomy, Physiology, Pharmacology, Pathology, Social and Preventive Medicine, Surgery, Medicine, Medical Jurisprudence, Radiology, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Experimental Surgery and Ophthalmology. Special treatment is provided in Radium and Deep X-ray therapy, Neuro-Surgery, and Plastic Surgery.

The total number of enrolment in 1961 was 464 in M.B.B.S., and 44 in post-graduate classes.

**The Government Ayurvedic College, Gwalior.**—This College, which was started in 1949, provides for teaching courses of study leading up to A.V.M.S. of Indian Medicine Board, Madhya Bharat Region, Gwalior, and B. A. M. S. of Vikram University, Ujjain. It is under the control of a Deputy Director of Ayurveda in the Health Department. The college has its own library and provides hostel accommodation for 24 students.

**Agricultural Education.**—The Agriculture College at Gwalior, founded in 1950, is run as a government institution under the Department of Agriculture. It is situated about half a mile from the Railway Station opposite the Mela grounds on an estate comprising the main building, hostels, engineering workshop, research institute, orchard, dairy and experimental farms extending over an area of 260 acres. The Agro-Economic Research Centre for Central India is also located here. The college provides courses of study up to M.Sc. (Ag.), covering a period of six years. The library contains more than 5,500 books and subscribes for about 70 scientific periodicals. A hostel is attached to it. The number of students during the year ending March, 1961, was 329.

Adjoining the Agriculture College is the Krishi Vidyalyaya which was established in 1947. It is also managed by the Agriculture Department and conducts a two years' Diploma Course. At present the Vidyalyaya provides hostel facilities for 25 students.



**Physical Education.**—Physical training forms an integral part of any system of education. Facilities for physical education in Gwalior district have been provided in an aided institution in addition to those existing in all teacher's training institutions. Recently the Government of India has established a National College of Physical Education at Gwalior with a view to developing leadership in the field of physical education, sports and recreation. It was inaugurated on 17th August, 1957 and is named after the Rani Laxmi Bai of Jhansi, who fell in battle at Gwalior. The college is situated in the old Race-Course area and the Polo-grounds which Maharaja Sindhia gifted to the institution. The college gives instruction leading to a degree in Physical Education, and is affiliated to Vikram University, Ujjain. A well-stocked and modern library in the subject is being built up and there is residential accommodation for boys.

**Technical Education.**—The technical education has made conspicuous progress in the district during two Plan periods. There is at present a private college of Engineering, one Government Polytechnic and a Junior Technical School.

The Madhav Engineering College was started in 1957 mainly through the efforts of late Maharaja Jiwaji Rao Sindhia, to whose munificent donation it owes its birth. The college is temporarily housed in the old Residency buildings. New college buildings are under construction on Motilal Nehru Road on an extensive piece of land east of Mela Ground. The college offers instruction for a five years' integrated course leading to B.Sc. (Eng.) degree of the Vikram University in Mechanical, Civil and Electrical Engineering.

The technical education below the degree level is co-ordinated by the State Board of Technical Education which advises the Government in all matters pertaining to technical education in the State.

The Central Technical Institute, Gwalior, started in March 1905, is now a Government Polytechnic, teaching courses in Civil, Mechanical and Electrical Engineering, besides a Diploma in Textile Technology of three years' duration.

The Junior Technical School, Gwalior, provides instruction in different trade components for a period of three years.

Besides, there is a Leather Technological Institute at Morar, which started functioning since 29th October 1956, and is at present training technical personnel for leather manufacturing trade. The institute provides Post-Matriculate two years' Diploma Course in Leather Technology and also awards a Diploma in Leather Manufacture Course. It is under the management of Education Department.



## SCHOOLS FOR THE CULTIVATION OF FINE ARTS

The history of the Gwalior School of Music commences with the reign of **Raja Man Singh Tomar in the 15th century A.D. or even earlier.** For, there is an interesting reference to its growth in this region, in the introductory chapter of Ferishta's History<sup>1</sup>, which states that Malchund, a legendary figure of Malwa, brought music from south to Gwalior. He writes, "The science of music, also, was introduced into Hindustan by Malchund who brought it during his expedition to the country of Tullinga. Malchund, long after, resided at Gwalior, and the descendants of the Tullingy musicians spread from that place over the North of India". This would suggest that musical traditions in Gwalior had an ancient past spread over the several centuries, and that long before the reign of Man Singh Tomara, Gwalior had become a centre of music in the country. The earliest historical evidence about the contribution of the House of Tomaras to the development of music is furnished by Khwaja Nizamuddin Ahmed in *Tabkat-i-Akbari* which refers to an exchange of musical literature between Dungan Singh Tomara and Zain-ul-Abedin of Kashmir.<sup>2</sup> But it was the next ruler Raja Man Singh, who was a great connoisseur of music. In his musical pursuits the ruler was ably assisted by one of his consorts, Mrignayani, whose memory is perpetuated in the form of four musical modes (*Sankirnaragas*) which are called after her as *Gujari, Bahul-Gujari, Mal-Gujari and Mangal-Gujari*. The Tomara chieftain is also credited with the authorship of a musical composition, *Mankutuh*, later translated into Persian by Faqirullah Khan, a manuscript of which is extant in the Raza Library, Rampur, U. P. The treatise is said to contain an account of the musical conference organised under the orders of Man Singh, a fact which is corroborated by Abul Fazl who says that four of Raja's artists, Nayak, Bakshu, Macchu and Bhanu formed a collection of songs suited to the tastes of every class of people.<sup>3</sup> The royal court was adorned by a galaxy of musicians and we find a mention of Bikshoo, Dhondee, and Charjoo who contributed a new type of *Malhar* to the stock of melodies called after their respective names as *Bikshoo-ki-Malhar, Dhondia-ki-Malhar* and *Charjoo-ki-Malhar*.<sup>4</sup> Of these, the most notable was Bikshoo who adorned the Tomara court till 1518 A.D. When Man Singh's son and successor, Vikramaditya Tomara, lost his throne, Bikshoo went to Raja Kirat of Kalinjar and shortly afterwards passed into the service of Sultan Bahadur of Gujarat.

The Gwalior School is characterised by various musical styles, viz., *Dhrupad, Dhamar, Khyal, Tappas, Thumaris, Dadras, Ledas, Gazals, Taranas, Triwats and Chaturang*. It is in these styles that Gwalior played a prominent role in the past. The special achievement of the School of Music fostered by Raja Man Singh is believed to be his adaptation of the popular

1. Tarikh-i-Ferishta, Tr. by Briggs, Vol. 1. p. LXVI.

2. Tabkat-i-Akbari, Tr. by B. De., Vol. III, pp. 659-60.

3. Ain-i-Akbari, Vol. II, p. 251.

4. O. C. Ganguly, Ragas and Raginis, p. 63.



folk music of North India and by chastening its transformation into a rich variegated music of the country in which folk rhythms, classical forms and the traditional variations of music, found a new and vigorous expression. This school laid the basis of a musical mode called *Dhrupad* which subsequently acquired popularity with the magic touch of Tansen.

Tansen was the leading court musician in the court of Emperor Akbar. He was born in a Brahman family at Behat, and like many of his contemporary celebrities, received his musical education at Gwalior. Early in his youth he learnt music under the guidance of Hari Das Swami Dagur, a saint musician of Vrindaban. Later Tansen embraced Islam, assumed or was given the title Mirza, and died late in April 1589 at Gwalior where his tomb still stands. In vocal music Tansen was reported to have been peerless. Abul Fazl declares that a 'singer like him has not been in India for the last thousand years'.<sup>1</sup> Legend claims that his singing not only made trees swing and rocks sway to his tune, but lighted lamps and made clouds dissolve into rains. There are legends that the *Dheepak rag*, once sung by him in Akbar's court scalded the singer's body. He introduced several pleasing innovations by making unorthodox variations of old forms. He was the first to use *Komal Gandhara* and both varieties of *Nishada* into *Raga Malhar*. Likewise he was the inventor of *Mian-ki-Todi*. It is an indication of the magnitude of the contribution of Gwalior to music during the Mughul period, that out of the 36 names of great musicians mentioned in *Ain-i-Akbari* 16 persons including Tansen hailed from Gwalior.<sup>2</sup>

The music tradition continued in Gwalior, under the Sindhias as well. Under their liberal patronage the first orthodox school of *Khyal* style came into being. The Gwalior style, also called *Lashkar Gayaki*, was first established by the celebrated brothers Haddu Khan, Hassu Khan and Nathu Khan. This triumvirate is said to have learnt music from Bare Muhammad Khan of Tilwandi, who was a court musician of Daulat Rao Sindhia. Subsequently the three brothers evolved a new style of *Khyal* of faster movement, combining *Kalawant* and *Qawwali* style. The court musician in the reign of Jayaji Rao was Vaman Bua. Among the descendants and pupils of Haddu Khan and Hassu Khan, their sons Rahmat Khan and Nisar Husain Khan, made a name for themselves nearly a quarter of a century ago. Apart from these two, Shankar Pandit, who was a disciple of these famous musicians, also attained great popularity in recent times. His son Krishna Rao Pandit, who is running Shankar Gandharva Vidyalyaya, in Gwalior, is a gifted musician. Raja Bhaiya of Poonchwale, a pupil of Shankar Pandit, is also a good *Khyalist*.

In the field of instrumental music, there have been a few outstanding artists whose reputation extended beyond the Gwalior region. Ganpat Rao Shinde, popularly known as Bhaiyaji, was a master of the somewhat maligned instrument, the harmonium. He was called a prince among harmonium players. He was a scion of the royal family, and for the sake of music he not

1. *Ain-i-Akbari*, Tr. by Blochmann, Vol. I, p. LXVI.

2. *ibid.*, p. 612.



only gave up his rights but also wandered like a pilgrim all over India. Among *Sitarists* Fazal Hussain of Gwalior was known all over Northern India.

Madhav Rao Sindhia, continuing the traditions of his predecessors, started in January 1918 a Music school at Gwalior which was later expanded into a Music college in 1919. The Madhav Sangeet Mahavidyalaya, affiliated to the Khairagarh Sangeet Vishwavidyalaya, teaches music leading up to Sangeet Madhyama, Ratna and Nipun (1st to 7th years). Besides the Music college, there are four more music schools in Gwalior, which are receiving regular aid from the Education Department.

**Painting.**—Education in the fine-arts is provided in the Government College of Fine Arts, Sanatandharma Mandir road, Lashkar. Started in 1954, the college was first located in the building of Janakganj High School, from where it has recently been transferred to its own premises. It is affiliated to Sir J. J. School of Arts, Bombay, and instructs the students to qualify for the Diploma course of Bombay. It had in 1959-60 about 150 students on roll.

The Lalit Kala Kendra, Gwalior, is an aided institution which gives instruction and training in dancing. It is affiliated to the Khairagarh University.

#### ORIENTAL SCHOOLS

Although Oriental learning must have flourished in Gwalior from ancient times—and the academic tradition of Padmavati has already been noticed—it was in the time of the Tomaras that we have evidence of Gwalior being an important seat of Jain learning. The Tomara epigraphs indicate a high stage of proficiency in Sanskrit language which is presumably the result of a sound system of classical education.

As elsewhere, the teaching of Sanskrit in Gwalior was provided in indigenous schools or *pathshalas* mainly financed by the people. It was only during the reign of Jayaji Rao that arrangements were made by the State to teach *Jyotish*, *Nyaya*, *Vyakarana* and the *Vedas*. The cause of Oriental studies further advanced in 1887, when Pandit Prannath arranged to send candidates for various examinations conducted by the Banares Sanskrit College and the Prathma and Visharad examinations of the Panjab University. The first batch of candidates for the Prathma and Visharad examinations appeared in 1889 and for the Shastri examination of the same University in 1892. Another step in the advancement of Sanskrit studies was taken in 1899, when the permission was secured from the Director of Public Instruction, N. W. Provinces to send candidates for the Acharya examination.

In 1931, the Sanskrit school at Gwalior was upgraded into a college and was housed in Huzurat Paiga from where it later shifted to Janakganj. The college is now affiliated to the Sanskrit University, Varanasi, as well as to the Vangiya Sanskrit Siksha Parishad, Calcutta, for various examinations. It also



provides teaching of *Vedas* on traditional lines. Education is given free here. The college has a hostel attached to it.

### EDUCATION FOR THE HANDICAPPED

The provision for the education of the handicapped in the district is made in Madhav Andhashram, Gwalior. Founded in 1914, it is now a registered private institution which provides free school education to blind children. The course of training tries to fit the students for the occupation for which they possess skill and aptitude, so as to make them self-dependent for their living. The institution is financed by grants-in-aid received from Education and Panchayat and Social Welfare Departments of Madhya Pradesh Government and also from the Central Social Welfare Board. The total number of inmates in 1961 was 37. The institution has a hostel attached to it.

### SOCIAL EDUCATION

Though Social Education as it is understood now, consisting of a many-sided instruction in literacy, social health and hygiene, citizenship, and recreation is of recent origin, an earlier attempt in this direction was made in 1914 when the Gwalior Durbar appointed *Upadeshaks* to educate the masses. The method followed by them was to adapt the traditional forms of *Katha*, *Bhajan* and religious discourses for the purpose of instruction. Today, its programme is put through literacy classes, community centres, Sewa-Dals or Farmer's clubs, Mahila-samitis and libraries, which are an essential agency of mass education.

Prior to September 1954, the work of Social Education was being looked after by the Education Department, but it is now managed by the Social Welfare Department. A Deputy Inspector of Social Education with headquarters at Gwalior, is in-charge of this work in Gwalior, Bhind and Morena districts. He is assisted by Social Education Organisers in Development Blocks and the Panchayat Inspectors in non-Block areas. At the village level there are teachers, some of whom are employed part-time in this programme of social uplift.

**Adult Education.**—Adult literacy forms a major part of Social Education. With the progress of democracy an average adult has become an important factor in politics, and this education is regarded as essential for national regeneration. The following table gives the position of illiteracy among adults in 1951, and reveals the magnitude of the problem:—

Total Population	Rural			Total Popula- tion.	Urban		
	No. of Illiterates		Percent- age of illiteracy		No. of Illiterates		Percentage of Illiteracy
	Males	Females			Males	Females	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
18,585	8,986	8,165	92	14,377	3,693	6,084	68



Gwalior district in 1960-61 had 53 literacy centres with 1,381 students and 53 teachers maintained at a cost of Rs. 26,350. During the same year, 19 libraries containing 1,520 books were maintained. In order to help neo-literates in retaining their literacy, a Follow-up Programme consisting of community listening, *Kisan Melas*, Dance and Drama festivals, Film shows etc., is carried out regularly in the Development Blocks.

### CULTURAL, LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES

In keeping with the cultural traditions of Gwalior a large number of literary and scientific societies have been in existence there. Of these, 11 associations are affiliated to the Madhya Pradesh Kala Parishad, Gwalior, through which grants are given to them by the Government. The names of these associations are: Cultural Society, Kalakar Mandal, Tansen Sangeet Samiti, Artists Combine, Sahitya Sadhana Sansad, Madhya Bharatiya Hindi Sahitya Sabha, Hindi Sahitya Goshti, Shilpa Kala Sangh, Swarna Kala Sangh, Sharda Upasak Mandal and Lalit Kala Kendra.

The Madhya Bharat Kala Parishad—now known as Madhya Pradesh Kala Parishad, started functioning from June 1952. Since then it has endeavoured to promote the study and propagation of literature, painting, sculpture, architecture and other fine arts. It also co-ordinates activities of local societies and is affiliated to the National Academies. It encourages exchange of ideas among various schools of art, publishes literature and gives awards to outstanding writings or paintings. Other activities, sponsored directly or indirectly by the Kala Parishad, aim not only at the preservation of ancient art and culture but also their enrichment through the agency of music conferences, dance and drama festivals, symposiums, and periodical Art Exhibitions. There is an Art gallery attached to the Kala Parishad.

### LIBRARIES, MUSEUMS

**Libraries.**—Out of 84 libraries in the district, 22 library-cum-reading rooms are working part-time and 16 are full-time. Of these the Central library, Lashkar, deserves special mention. It is a State-managed library established in 1927 under the control of the Education Department. Annually it receives a recurring grant of Rs. 20,000. It contains about 64,187 volumes, and complete sets of many Indian and foreign magazines. The number of daily newspapers and periodicals received is 180. The average daily attendance of readers in the reading room is about 300. A children's library-cum-museum is located here. A training class in Library Science of four months duration to train the school librarians has also been started in this institution since 1958. Apart from this, an Integrated Library Service is provided at Dabra, which serves 50 villages in the vicinity. There is also a library at Bhandar, named Gandhi Vachan Mandir.

**The Archaeological Museum, Gwalior Fort.**—With the creation of the department of Archaeology in 1913 by the Maharaja Madhav Rao Sindhia, it was decided to establish a museum in Gwalior. The Gwalior Durbar ordered



that various pieces of antiquarian interest lying scattered all over the State should be collected, and in 1920 all these architectural finds were classified and arranged in the Gujar Mahal. The museum is mainly archaeological and the collection comprises sculptures, stone pillars and capitals, terra-cotta objects, lithic inscriptions and copper plates, inscribed seals, metal images, coins discovered at Pawaya, Vidisha and Maheshwar, fine copies of frescoes at Bagh caves and a collection of Rajput and Mughul paintings. There is also a good library attached to it. The museum is under the charge of a curator.

**The State Museum, Jamna Bagh.**—This museum was established by Maharaja Madhav Rao in 1910 and was housed in one of the spacious wings of the palace. It was first organised as a Zoological Museum and was later shifted to the present building called Jamna Bagh Kothi on the occasion of the visit of the Prince of Wales to Gwalior in 1922. The exhibits fall under nine main heads—Natural history, Armoury, Art, Coins, Ivory and Wood, Brass, Forest Products, Corals and Geology. It is under the charge of an officer of the Gwalior Corporation.

**Botanical and Zoological Gardens.**—In the district there is no botanical garden. The M.L.B. College, Gwalior, where Botany is one of the subjects taught and the Agriculture College, have their own botanical gardens which are used principally for academic purposes.

There is a small zoological garden in Phoolbagh compound, formerly known as King George Park. The zoo along with the park was opened to the public in 1922. It is managed by the Gwalior Corporation.



## CHAPTER XIV

### MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

There is little evidence to show that the modern Allopathic system of medicine was practised in Gwalior district till about the second half of the 19th century. Whatever medical aid existed in the district prior to this was of the traditional Ayurvedic or Unani system, apart from certain crude, empirical treatment of illness in vogue among the people in villages such as branding the ailing part of the body with red hot iron pieces. The increasing contact with British and French officers in Gwalior State gradually brought the use of the Western systems of medicine into the region, especially in the Cantonment areas, though it would appear that the early British Officers were reluctant to introduce the Allopathic system of medicine on any wide scale. An official letter of the Gwalior State dated the 7th November 1846 observes—"The Durbar contemplated the establishment of a dispensary at Gwalior under the superintendence of the Residency Surgeon. Lord Hardinge's Government regarded the circumstances as a proof of the regard of Sindhia's Government for the welfare of its subjects. His Lordship expressed his willingness to supply the institution with such European medicines and instruments as were absolutely necessary, but was of the opinion that the introduction of native drugs into the dispensary should be encouraged as much as possible."<sup>1</sup>

The dispensary referred to here could perhaps be identified with the charitable dispensary that existed at Lashkar staffed by an Indian doctor and under the supervision of the Residency Surgeon. The dispensary was maintained by the Ruler at a cost of Rs. 3,200 a year and was situated at Phoolbagh, about five miles from Morar. During 1873-74 this dispensary was removed to a building in Naulakha, which was later found to be at an inconvenient distance both from the capital and the Cantonment of Morar. Consequently, during 1886-87, it was shifted to a more convenient locality in Lashkar so as to make it easily accessible to the people.

Another charitable dispensary existed in the Sadar Bazar of the Morar Cantonment under the charge of the Staff Assistant Surgeon. This too was under the supervision of the Residency Surgeon who, however, had little time to give any effective aid to either of these dispensaries, since he was a regimental officer in the Cantonment. It received no aid from the Ruler and was kept up by private subscriptions from the European and the Indian communities. At this dispensary subsistence and medicines were given free to all except well-to-do people who were charged their actual cost.

The areas of Lashkar, Morar and the neighbouring villages were subject to periodical scourges of epidemics and pestilence in the latter part of the last century on account of the neglected sanitation of the area. To remedy

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<sup>1</sup> Talboys Wheeler, *Summary of Affairs of the Maratha States* (1627-1856), p. 275.



the situation the impounded waters of a dam on Morar river at the north-eastern limits of the Cantonment were drained off in 1870, but this did not appear to improve the situation materially.

In 1878-79 there was an out-break of cholera among the troops at Morar. In 1884-85 it appeared in a severe form at Lashkar. There were also visitations of small-pox during 1881-82, 1882-83 and 1884-85. Attempts were made to carry out general vaccination but the progress was unsatisfactory partly because people refused to take their children to the charitable dispensaries for vaccination and partly due to the inability of these small dispensaries to cope with the task. It was increasingly realised that action should be taken to employ a competent medical officer to develop the dispensaries, improve sanitation and push forward vaccination in the territory of the Gwalior State. As a result, a Medical Department was organised in the Gwalior State in 1887 by Col. A. M. Crofts, I. M. S., who had been earlier appointed guardian and medical officer to the Ruler, Maharaja Madhav Rao Sindhia. Western methods of surgery and medicine began to be introduced in the State from that time onwards. For a considerable time there was a strong prejudice among the people against Western medicines and inadequate education and means of communication prevented an early dissolution of these prejudices. Nevertheless a modest beginning was made with half a dozen dispensaries and as these gained in popularity, new hospitals and dispensaries were opened in succeeding years. In 1887 a temporary hospital, called the Jayaji Rao Memorial Hospital, was established in Lashkar for the treatment of women and children. To accommodate the increasing number of in-patients at this hospital, a large and convenient building to accommodate 150 in-patients was built in 1893-94 at a cost of Rs. 4.5 lakhs and the work carried on in the temporary hospital was transferred to it. The hospital was formally opened in November 1899 by Lord Curzon, the then Viceroy and Governor-General of India and later came to be known as the Java Arogya Hospital, Lashkar. In 1887 a dispensary was also opened at Bhandar.

In 1895-96, the Medical Department was strengthened by the addition of an Assistant Medical Officer who, during the touring season, was employed in the control of vaccination, in the inspection of district dispensaries and in affording surgical aid among the people in the outlying areas. In 1906-07 a new dispensary was opened in the Lashkar city for the treatment of women and children. Medicines were also distributed through the agency of vaccinators, the police and district officials.

In order to regulate the increasing work of the department and introduce a uniform system of working at the various institutions, a Medical Manual was prepared and was brought into force from the 1st November, 1911.

#### VITAL STATISTICS

The registration of vital statistics in the Gwalior State was voluntary and though an attempt was made to maintain statistics of births and



deaths in Lashkar and Morar, in the absence of any statutory obligation the registration of births and deaths was incomplete. It was only on the 18th January 1913 that by a Government Gazette Notification instructions for the collection and maintenance of vital statistics were issued and incorporated in the Police Manual. But even these instructions did not appear to have improved the position, so that the Gwalior State Census Report of 1931 observes that the value of vital statistics in the State is negligible.

The variation in the population provides an indication of the increase or decrease in the population of the district during the inter-censal period. These figures would reflect the natural growth of population as well as the increase through immigration. They would also reflect the effect of large scale epidemics: —

Year	Persons	Increase or decrease	Percentage of variation
1901	3,93,738	..	..
1911	3,21,025	-72,758	-18.47
1921	3,34,139	+13,114	+4.08
1931	3,72,303	+38,164	+11.42
1941	4,49,919	+77,616	+20.84
1951	5,30,299	+80,380	+17.86

The fall in the population of the district in the inter-censal period of 1901-11 by 18.47 per cent could partly be attributed to the heavy mortality caused by plague, famine and malaria that affected the district. Similarly, the comparatively small increase, during the decade 1911-21, of 4.08 per cent could be the result of the plague of 1911-12, 1917-18 and influenza of 1918-19. In the decade 1921-31 the population increased by 11.42 per cent, and this trend was maintained in subsequent years.

### DISEASES COMMON TO THE DISTRICT

The most common diseases, as shown by the kind of patients who sought relief and treatment at the various hospitals and dispensaries in the district, were malaria fevers, diseases of the eye and skin, diseases of the digestive, respiratory and nervous systems, rheumatic fevers, venereal diseases, etc. Apart from these, the epidemics of cholera, small-pox, influenza and plague were also prevalent in varying degrees in the district.



**Malaria.**—The prevalence of malarial fevers in the rural areas on the cessation of rains, particularly after a famine, has been the general rule in the district. After the great famine of 1899-1901 malaria raged over the greater part of the district and caused a high death rate among all classes of people. Since then, almost every year, it has claimed the largest number of the sick in the district. In 1908-09, its prevalence was so great that not less than one of every four patients suffered from this disease. In 1915-16, it was responsible for a large number of deaths. In recent years there has been a steady decline in the incidence of this disease owing to anti-malarial measures and other factors.

To check the disease, quinine and cinchona tablets were sold to the public at a nominal cost at medical institutions and through the agency of patwaris, post-offices and Panchayat Boards. In 1922-23, the manufacture of these tablets was started at the Civil Medical Stores, Gwalior. The sale of these tablets was continued through the usual agencies but it did not meet with much success. Propaganda work regarding anti-malarial measures was also done at Health Shows held from time to time. After the formation of Madhya Bharat, anti-malarial measures, both preventive and curative, were intensified. Under the National Malaria Control Programme, a separate Anti-Malaria Unit, under an Anti-Malaria Officer, assisted by a Public Health Chemist and a Drug Analyst, was started in the district. The chief function of this unit was to carry out mass D.D.T. spraying of houses for the destruction of mosquitos and flies particularly in hyper-endemic areas, and to distribute free of charge, in the affected areas, anti-malaria tablets like paludrine, mapacrine, resochine, etc. The table below gives the work done in this direction during years 1958 to 1960:—

Year (1)	No. of villages in which D. D. T. spraying was done (2)	No. of tablets distributed (3)
1958-59	1,729	4,445
1959-60	1,919	11,000

Source:—Malaria Medical Officer, Gwalior.

**Eye Relief Camps.**—Even during the regime under Sindhia Rulers an attempt was made to render treatment for eye diseases with the help of a Travelling Dispensary in the district, apart from the aid available at medical institutions. After the formation of the Union of Madhya Bharat, more concerted efforts were made for extending facilities for such treatment in the rural areas. From the commencement of the First Five-Year Plan, a number of eye relief



camps were organized in the district. Between six to eight such camps were organized annually in the rural areas where, under the supervision of an eye specialist, treatment was given for eye troubles. The number of patients treated and operations performed at these camps during the First Plan period is shown in the following tables :—

#### Details of Patients

Year	Indoor	Outdoor	Total
1951-52	10	26,221	26,231
1952-53	19	46,421	46,440
1953-54	7	53,219	53,226
1954-55	6	46,797	46,857
1955-56	947	1,06,777	1,07,724
Total ..	1,043	2,79,435	2,80,478

#### Details of Operations

Year	Major	Minor	Total
1951-52	42	130	172
1952-53	36	141	177
1953-54	102	26	128
1954-55	187	152	339
1955-56	152	66	221
1956-57	20	22	42

**Tuberculosis.**—In order to combat the incidence of tuberculosis in the district, a T. B. Clinic was started at the J. A. Hospital, Gwalior, in the year 1941. A separate T. B. Ward with 20 beds was also constructed in the compound of this hospital in 1945-46, which has now been enlarged to a bed-strength of 104. In addition to these, a T. B. Hospital (known as the Gajra Raja T. B. Hospital), with 60 beds has been constructed at Gwalior during 1957-58 and is attached to the G. R. Medical College, Gwalior.

A number of preventive measures against tuberculosis are also under way. Under the auspices of the World Health Organization and the International Anti T. B. Campaign, mass B. C. G. vaccination and tuberculin tests have been started in the district from 1950. Up to 1952-53, the T. B. institutions in the district had treated a total number of 77,959 patients, including 2,997 who were treated during the single year 1952-53. The amount of work done by the



B. C. G. vaccination and tuberculine test teams during the period from 1950-51 to 1955-56 is shown below:—

Year	No. of persons tested with tuberculine.	No. of persons vaccinated with B. C. G.
1950-51	25,490	6,654
1951-52	1,96,348	45,936
1952-53	5,925	1,487
1953-54	99,933	24,710
1954-55	42,576	13,448
1955-56	44,284	19,942

Source:—Deputy Director, Health Services, Gwalior.

For early detection of T. B. cases, a mass chest radiography unit has been operating in the district since 1956. A scheme for the training of T. B. Health Visitors has also been launched since 1956-57. During that year ten such Visitors were trained at an expenditure of about Rs. 16,000.

**Epidemics.**—During the last decade of the 19th century and the first decade of the present century, the district was swept by waves of epidemic diseases which took a heavy toll of life. A systematic effort to check this menace was begun in 1909-10, as a result of which the ravages done by these epidemics were gradually reduced. An Epidemic Manual was compiled in 1910-11, which was later revised in 1923-24, particularly in respect of the rules relating to rural areas. Later, the enactment of a statutory measure for the control etc., of epidemic diseases was taken up and the Gwalior Epidemic Diseases Act of 1942 was enforced from the 3rd August, 1942. After the formation of Madhya Bharat, a unified enactment, called the Epidemic Diseases Act, was passed during 1948-49. It was later replaced by an Act of the Government of India.

**Cholera.**—Cholera usually appears at the setting in of the rains and is generally prevalent from July to November. It has never been totally absent from the district and there have been only a few years in which it did not claim some deaths. During the second half of the last century, it was by far the most dreaded epidemic and used to take a heavy toll of life. In the last decade of the century, it was prevalent almost throughout in an epidemic form. In the first decade of the present century, it broke out generally in a mild form in 1900, 1901, 1903-04, 1905-06 and 1906-07. During the second decade, it appeared in 1913-14, 1914-15, 1918 and 1919-20, the last visitation having caused 640 attacks and 476 deaths in Lashkar city alone. In the third decade, it occurred only in a mild form during 1926-27, 1928-29 and



1929-30. In the following decade, it broke out during 1930-31, 1932 and 1935-36, while in the subsequent decades it appeared almost every year in an epidemic form. During the period from 1951-52 to 1955-56 the number of seizures and deaths from this epidemic was as follows:—

Year (1)	Seizures (2)	Deaths (3)
1951-52	13	6
1952-53	97	49
1953-54	194	53
1954-55	..	..
1955-56	24	10
Total	328	118

It will thus be seen that except for 1953-54, during recent years the incidence of this epidemic has been low. After 1956-57 the severity of this disease was negligible.

On receipt of information about the out-break of cholera, special arrangements are made to admit patients in isolation wards. Mass inoculation and disinfection work is started by the health staff with the help of the local authorities. Emergency regulations are also enforced, accompanied by propaganda through pamphlets, magic lantern slides, health talks, etc.

**Small-Pox.**—May and June are the most fertile months for this disease while November is the least responsive. Like cholera, it has also never been totally absent from the district. It appeared in Lashkar, though not in the form of an epidemic, in 1881-82, 1882-83, and 1884-85. It raged in 1905-06 in a severe form at many of the famine relief camps. In 1911-12, it appeared in an equally severe epidemic form and was responsible for 713 attacks and 153 deaths in Lashkar alone. It recurred in the form of an epidemic during 1912-13, 1932-33, 1933-34, 1935-36 and 1944-45.

An indication of the prevalence of this disease during the period from 1951-52 to 1957-58 is given in the following table:—

Year (1)	Seizures (2)	Deaths (3)
1951-52	25	4
1952-53	8	3
1953-54	91	46
1954-55	215	67
1955-56	63	13
1956-57	111	16
1957-58	113	35

Source:—Deputy Director, Health Services, Gwalior.

It is thus evident that this disease continues to afflict the district every year though, it has been brought under control.



**Vaccination.**—The only so far known preventive measure against small-pox is vaccination. During the second half of the 19th century, the British Residents impressed upon the ruler of the Gwalior State, the necessity of popularising vaccination. Some attempt was made in this direction but on account of poor response from the people the progress was not satisfactory. With the organization of a separate Medical Department in 1887, vaccination was organized in a regular manner. The practice of carrying on vaccination work in villages was, however, not satisfactory. The vaccinator had to go from house to house, and chase the children and their parents. During 1910-11, a Vaccination Manual was compiled. In 1920-21, a depot for the manufacture of vaccine lymph was established at Shivpuri. It was the only well-equipped institution of its kind in the Central India for the manufacture of vaccine. This depot was later shifted to Gwalior, but at present it is located at Manpur in the Indore district. A class for training vaccinators was also organized in 1923-24. In spite of these measures, vaccination work could not be pushed forward on an adequate scale. It was, therefore, decided to introduce a legislative measure on the subject, and in 1940-41 the Gwalior Vaccination Bill was drafted and published for eliciting public opinion. It was passed into law subsequently and enforced from the 30th August 1942. Under this enactment vaccination of all children and revaccination of grown-ups and adults was prescribed as a measure for personal protection. During the period from 1951-52 to 1959-60 the number of primary and secondary vaccinations was as follows:—

Year (1)	Primary (2)	Revaccination (3)	Total (4)
1951-52	9,475	1,485	10,960
1952-53	11,222	2,449	13,671
1953-54	22,452	N. A.	22,452
1954-55	24,322	1,296	25,618
1955-56	24,819	2,092	26,911
1956-57	10,995	4,081	15,076
1957-58	22,055	4,322	26,377
1958-59	10,628	808	11,436
1959-60	10,304	1,804	12,108

Source :—Deputy Director, Health Services, Gwalior.

In the affected and threatened areas, mass vaccination and revaccination campaign is carried out by employing extra vaccinators. Propaganda is also carried on by means of magic lantern slides, leaflets, posters and talks.

**Influenza.**—The present generation in Gwalior district perhaps still remembers the year 1918-19 as the year of the great influenza epidemic, which



swept over not only their district but also the greater part of Northern India, taking a heavy toll of life. The epidemic raged in the Gwalior district throughout the year of 1918.

Subsequently, for about four decades, influenza was not heard of as an epidemic, but the year 1957 witnessed another widespread scourge of this epidemic. It broke out in the city of Gwalior in the month of June and lasted till September of that year. For a time, all educational institutions and cinemas had to be closed down in order to check the spread of infection. The total number of seizures in the district was 24,141 of which 23,637 were in Greater Gwalior alone. There was no death.

**Plague.**—Bubonic plague made its first appearance in the Gwalior State during 1896-97. It reappeared in 1903 in the town of Lashkar. In 1904-05, it occurred in the form of a severe epidemic at Lashkar and Morar and lasted for about six months, the disease having been responsible for 293 attacks and 241 deaths. At this time, the Residency villages, which were in close proximity to Morar, were also affected by it. After a few fatal cases, the Resident and the Residency Surgeon succeeded in persuading the villagers to leave their houses and live out in the open. The disease was then soon controlled and after some six weeks, the inhabitants were allowed to return to their homes. Preparations for wholesale inoculations were made but very few people would come forward to take it. The disease was again prevalent in a virulent form from December 1910 to April 1911 at Lashkar and Morar and other places, and reappeared again in 1917-18 and raged throughout the year. Considering the serious proportions of this scourge, which had raged almost periodically, a plague conference was convened at Indore in April 1918 at the invitation of His Highness Holkar to take measures for the better control of this epidemic and more efficient cooperation amongst the various Central India States. As a result of the measures, both preventive and curative, taken after this conference, the epidemic has practically disappeared from the region, and Gwalior district has been free from it.

## PUBLIC HOSPITALS AND DISPENSARIES

### Organization of the Medical Department

From its inception in 1887 until the merger of the Gwalior State in the former union of Madhya Bharat in 1948, the Medical Department of the State was under a Chief Medical Officer, stationed at Gwalior, who carried on the administration with the help of the staff given to him. There were Superintendents of Dispensaries under him, who inspected and exercised control over the hospitals and dispensaries in their respective circles, which comprised a group of districts. There was also a Lady Superintendent to inspect the Maternity Homes and Child Welfare Centres. All the Civil and Military hospitals at the State headquarters were placed under the Civil Surgeon, Lashkar, who also used to work as a Personal Assistant to the Chief Medical Officer.

In 1935-36, Assistant Surgeons and Lady Assistant Surgeons were provided at the district headquarters. The charge of dispensaries in the districts was



held by Sub-Assistant Surgeons while *Vaidyas* and *Hakims* held charge of the Ayurvedic and Unani dispensaries. With the formation of the Madhya Bharat Union in June 1948, the Medical Department of the Union was organised on the lines of the Medical Departments in other Provinces of India, with the Director of Health Services as the Head of the Department. Under this set-up, which continues in the new State also, there is a District Medical Officer in the Gwalior district, who is also in charge of the Morena district, and a Superintendent for the J. A. Group of Hospitals at Gwalior. Under the District Medical Officer, there are Medical Officers and Assistant Medical Officers in subordinate charge. Gwalior is also the headquarters of the Deputy Director, Health Services and Assistant Director, Malaria. The Superintendent, J. A. Group of Hospitals, Gwalior, functions directly under the Director of Health Services while the District Medical Officers of Gwalior, Bhind, Shivpuri, Guna and Rajgarh, Superintendent, Mental Hospital, Gwalior, and the Lady Superintendent, Maternity Homes, are administratively under the Deputy Director of the Northern Division.

The **Jaya Arogya Hospital, Lashkar**.—This hospital was the premier medical institution in the former Gwalior State and occupies an important position among the institutions of medical service in the district. Originally known as the Jayaji Rao Memorial Hospital, it was founded in 1893-94 by Maharaja Madhav Rao Sindhia in memory of his father Jayaji Rao Sindhia and was formally opened in November 1899 by Lord Curzon, who was then Viceroy and Governor-General of India. The building of the hospital was constructed at a cost of about 4.50 lakhs of rupees and initially provided accommodation for 150 indoor patients. During the past six decades, there has been a phenomenal development of this institution. Its present bed-strength is 306 and the hospital is fully equipped with modern and up-to-date instruments and equipment. There is a special maternity ward in a separate building with 40 beds. The X-ray Department, the Gajra Raja Surgico-Radiological and Pathological Institute and the Operation Theatre, both equipped with most modern apparatus, are located in a separate building. The out-patients' department of the Hospital i.e., the Madhav Dispensary, is also housed in a separate building and has medical, surgical, pathological and other sections, each in the charge of a Medical Officer.

This Hospital, along with other medical institutions at Gwalior, provides teaching facilities to the medical students, both under-graduates and post-graduates, and provides training facilities for Compounders, Nurses, Mid-wives, Health Visitors and Radiographers.

During the period of the First Plan, a number of new schemes were introduced in this Hospital. A Medico-Social Worker has been appointed, whose duty is to help the patients who come to the hospital for aid and treatment. Likewise, an Occupational Therapy Worker has been appointed, whose



function is to rehabilitate the partial or total invalids according to their state. Recently, radio sets and head-phones have been installed at this hospital for the recreation of indoor patients.

The staff of this hospital consists of a Superintendent and 11 wholtime doctors consisting of physicians, surgeons and others. The number of doctors on the house staff is 42 and there are 11 sisters and 35 nurses.

**Kamla Raja Women's Hospital, Lashkar.**—In order to provide adequate medical aid to the large number of women and child patients, who could not be accommodated in the building of the J. A. Hospital, His Highness Jiwaji Rao Sindhia donated a sum of Rs. 14 lakhs in 1939 for the construction of a separate hospital for women and children in memory of his sister, the late princess Kamla Raja Sindhia. Its foundation stone was laid in 1941-42 by the Marchioness of Linlithgow. The construction of the hospital building was completed in 1950 and at that time it provided accommodation for 250 patients. Its present bed-strength is 323, out of which 50 beds were provided during 1956-57 at a cost of Rs. 20,000. The opening ceremony of this hospital was performed by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Prime Minister of India, on the 1st December 1953.

The staff of this hospital is headed by a Superintendent, who is assisted by seven doctors, four sisters and 11 staff nurses. The medical relief afforded at this and the J. A. Hospital during the period from 1953 to 1959 is shown below:—

Year	No. of Out-door patients treated	No. of Indoor patients treated	Total
1953	3,90,219	1,23,429	5,13,648
1954	4,22,148	1,57,146	5,79,294
1955	5,17,730	1,44,919	6,62,679
1956	3,50,756	1,98,300	5,49,056
1957	3,05,593	2,16,928	5,22,521
1958	4,42,117	2,21,516	6,63,690
1959	4,04,231	2,43,608	6,47,829

Source:—Superintendent, J. A. Group of Hospitals, Gwalior.



In addition to these hospitals, there are the following hospitals and dispensaries in the district. The number of doctors and nurses provided in them, as it stood in 1959-60, is indicated against each hospital:—

Name of hospital/dispensary	Doctors	Nurses
(1) Janakganj Civil Hospital ..	3	2
(2) Morar Civil Hospital ..	3	3
(3) Gwalior Civil Hospital ..	2	2
(4) Gwalior Fort Civil Dispensary.	1	1
(5) Dabra Civil Hospital ..	2	..
(6) Bhandar Civil Hospital ..	1	..

These institutions are under the administrative control of the District Medical Officer, Gwalior, and have been provided with most of the modern instruments during the Plan period.

**Departmental Hospitals.**—The Ministry of Defence has one of its Military Hospitals in the Morar Cantonment and another hospital known as the Brigade Hospital in Kampoo for the military personnel and members of their families. Similarly, there is a Police Hospital in the Reserve Police Lines for members of the police force. The Central Railways have their own hospital for the treatment of their employees and their families.

**The Mental Hospital, Lashkar.**—A Mental Hospital was opened at Lashkar near the Central Jail on the 20th January 1920 and was for some time in the charge of the Superintendent of Dispensaries, Gird Circle, who had received special training in mental diseases. The number of lunatics admitted in that year was 24 of whom six were cured and two died, leaving 16 in the Asylum. In order to regulate the work of the institution on proper lines, the Mental Patients and Mental Hospitals Act of 1945 was passed and brought into force from the 29th December 1945.

At the beginning of year 1956, there were 153 patients (100 males and 53 females) in the hospital. In all, 172 new patients (135 males and 37 females), were admitted during the year as compared to 245 (166 males and 79 females) admitted during the previous year. Out of the total of 325 patients, 71 (53 males and 18 females) were discharged with complete remission, 70 (50 males and 20 females), were discharged in an improved condition, 18 (15 males and 3 females) were otherwise discharged, one escaped and 9 (5 males and 4 females) died.

The hospital is headed by a Superintendent, who is assisted by three doctors one sister, one working nurse, two compounders, 28 warders, and other staff. During 1956-57, this hospital was reorganised, and a building for therapy treatment was constructed.



**Anti-rabies Treatment Centre.**—In order that indigent persons bitten by rabid animals may receive the benefit of treatment at the Pasteur Institute, Kasauli, arrangements to send such persons there at State expense were made in the Gwalior State in the year 1912 and rules were made authorising certain medical and judicial officers to issue necessary certificates to deserving patients for receiving this treatment free. This was, however, not found to be a satisfactory arrangement. A medical officer was, therefore, sent to Kasauli in 1930-31 for training in the technique of anti-rabies treatment. In the following year, an anti-rabies treatment Centre was opened at the J. A. Hospital and it was later formally recognised. The number of patients treated at this Centre during the period from 1957 to 1960 is given below:—

Years	No. of persons treated
1957	2,496
1958	2,662
1959	2,807
1960	3,315

**Gajra Raja Mercy Home, Morar.**—This is a Leprosy Centre and was established in the year 1946. The following table gives statistical information about the number of inmates treated in this home during the period from 1951-52 to 1955-56.

Year	No. of inmates admitted during the year	No. of inmates discharged after recovery	No. of inmates who died	No. of inmates who left the Home otherwise
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1951-52	80	13	6	20
1952-53	27	10	4	11
1953-54	38	33	8	3
1954-55	30	9	6	18
1955-56	43	12	6	17
1956-57	31	6	1	24
1957-58	74	28	7	42
1958-59	56	22	8	32
1959-60	56	10	11	32

Source :—Superintendent, J. A. Group of Hospitals, Gwalior.

A Leprosy Clinic under a Leper Specialist has also been set up at the Janakganj Hospital, Lashkar, in 1954-55.



**Training of Nurses.**—A scheme for the training of nurses was sanctioned in 1931, and a training class for probationer nurses was opened at the J. A. Hospital and was recognised by the Bombay Presidency Nursing Council. A nursing school continues to train nurses at the J. A. Hospital. With a view to minimizing the categories of Nursing staff and in order to integrate preventive and curative services, it has recently been decided to give the nurses a public health bias, so that they might work in hospitals, Primary Health Centres, School Health Services, etc. With this end in view, a course in Public Health has been introduced in the Nursing curriculum at this and other Nursing schools. During 1959, 26 candidates were admitted for training as nurses and 19 were qualified.

**Sanitary Inspectors' Classes.**—Since 1955, a centre for the training of Sanitary Inspectors was established at the G. R. Medical College, Gwalior, with accommodation for 45 candidates. In that year 20 candidates were admitted for training. This number rose to 45 in 1959.

**Auxiliary Nurse-cum-Midwives Training Centres.**—The existing centre for working nurses and midwives at Gwalior was up-graded in 1956, and in its place the training of Nurse-cum-midwives was started in 1958. One more centre of this kind was established at Morar in 1958-59. During 1959, there were 36 trainees, of whom 12 passed the qualifying examination.

**Ambulance and Red Cross Work.**—A Centre of the St. John Ambulance Association was started in Gwalior State in the year 1910 and classes for training in first aid and ambulance were organized with the cooperation of the Education Department. Since then, the Centre has shown steady progress year by year, both in the number of candidates trained in ambulance as well as in the number of its life members. There is a sub-centre of this Association at Antri.

In 1936, a scheme for the expansion of the work of this Centre and that of the Indian Red Cross Society was sanctioned by Her Highness the Maharani, who was the President of the Centre, for which a sum of Rs. 91,591, refunded by the Silver Jubilee Fund as the share of the Gwalior State, was made available. The Indian Red Cross Society started its branch in the Gwalior State in the year 1934 with the object of promoting maternal and infant welfare supplying comforts to patients in the hospitals, training of nurses, midwives and health visitors, care of T. B. patients and encouraging popular health education. In 1948, this branch and the branches of the other covenanting States of Madhya Bharat were merged to form a Provincial Branch with 11 sub-branches. One sub-branch was formed in the Gwalior district with the District Medical Officer as its Secretary. This sub-branch works in cooperation with the St. John Ambulance Association Centre at Gwalior.



**Blood Bank Centre, J. A. Hospital, Lashkar.**—This Centre was opened in the year 1951. During 1956 to 1960, it collected blood as indicated in the table below:—

Year	Blood collection in C. C.
1956	1,63,140
1957	1,89,800
1958	1,69,950
1959	1,77,500
1960	2,25,600

Source :—Principal, Medical College, Gwalior.

### Medical Facilities in Rural Areas

Facilities for medical aid in the rural areas of the district, both for ordinary and epidemic diseases, have been always inadequate. During the third decade of the present century, a travelling dispensary functioned in the Gird district and it rendered medical aid in the interior. A few Jagir dispensaries also existed at the jagir headquarters which served the neighbourhood. Facilities also existed for the supply, through post offices and Panchayat Boards, of quinine and cinchona tablets in rural areas at a nominal cost. But the relief rendered by these agencies was hardly adequate to meet even a fraction of the demand. Prior to the launching of the First Five-Year Plan, the Gwalior district had only three hospitals (439 beds), five graded dispensaries (13 beds) and 11 Ayurvedic dispensaries. Besides these, the other institutions at Gwalior, such as the Gajra Raja Medical College, Government Medical Stores, Mental Hospital, Ayurvedic College, Ayurvedic Pharmacy and the Gajra Raja Mercy Home (Morar), etc., also afforded medical relief. However, the relief rendered by all these institutions was confined mostly to urban areas. Special attention was, therefore, paid in the First Five-Year Plan to the provision of medical facilities to the rural population. As a result, during the First Plan period, four Ayurvedic dispensaries were established at the following villages at a cost of Rs. 33,759 :—

Village	Tahsil
(1) Sukulahari	Pichhore
(2) Patai	Gwalior
(3) Badera Supan	Bhander
(4) Sankhoi	Pichhore

These dispensaries are under the charge of *Vaidyas*, who were expected to tour within a radius of five miles for attending to the people of the surrounding villages. A graded Allopathic dispensary was also opened at Pichhore during the same period.



For making medical relief readily available in villages, which are situated far away from hospitals and dispensaries and which have a population of 1,000 and above, a scheme for the supply of medicine chests was also started. During the First Plan period, 155 such chests were supplied. The responsibility for the distribution of the medicines was entrusted to the village panchayats. An Inspector was appointed for supervising the proper use of these chests and their refilling, which is generally done thrice a year. Apart from these facilities, two primary health centres have been established during the First Plan period at the N.E.S. Block Centres of Dabra and Bhitarwar. These centres have been established for providing the rural areas with preventive and curative health services. A primary health centre is provided with a Sanitary Inspector, Health Visitor and a Midwife. The village level worker, who is trained in public health work, is also provided with a portable medicine chest containing simple medicines of known therapeutic value.

### Maternity and Child Welfare

As the facilities for general medical and surgical treatment, started in the second half of the last century, began to be availed of and appreciated by the public, it was felt that proper medical help in maternity cases could also be made available to the people. For this purpose, a class for training indigenous *dais* in maternity work was started in April 1902 at the Women's Ward of the J. A. Hospital, Lashkar, under the auspices of the Victoria Memorial Scholarship Fund. To begin with, till about 1920, the response to this class was not satisfactory but gradually they began to attract trainees, and the classes gained in their usefulness. This training centre continues to train *dais*, and during the First Five-Year Plan period 88 *dais* received training at this centre.

A special *Dais'* class, added by the Economic Development Fund, was also opened at the J. A. Hospital in 1921-22 for training educated ladies who could supervise the work of the *dais* in the district. These *dais* helped in extending maternity relief by attending to labour cases, teaching village *dais* about cleanliness and other hygienic principles, organising child welfare centres, etc. For helping the poor, maternity sets were also issued from time to time to hospitals, dispensaries and persons, who volunteered to take up the work.

Until about 1920, the death rate was abnormally large among infants and children, due mainly to defective and unclean ways of conducting labour. Apart from the steps mentioned above, a child welfare movement was also launched, due largely to the pioneering work done by Mrs. G. Stephens, who after being transferred from the J. A. Hospital to the Palace, took up in 1920, as a labour of love, the child welfare work at the Janakganj Female Dispensary, Lashkar. This Child Welfare Clinic was the first of its kind started in Gwalior State.

A Sabha, known as the Jija Maharaj Balrakshak Sabha (named after Her Highness Jija Maharani Sahiba) was established in the year 1924 with the object of reducing maternal and infant mortality by propaganda about maternity and child welfare, by starting ante-natal and post-natal clinics, infant welfare centres, maternity homes and organising health and baby weeks at various



places. Under the auspices of the Sabha, baby weeks and health exhibitions were held every year at Lashkar and other places. These exhibitions were organised by the medical and sanitary staff.

A maternity ward already existed at the J. A. Hospital, Gwalior. In addition, a maternity home was opened in the city at Laxmiganj on the 1st January 1928. One of the activities of this institution was to train Maternity Health Visitors. A training class financed by the Jija Maharaj Memorial Fund was accordingly started in 1930-31. The Health Visitors regularly visited private houses and tendered advice and guidance in connection with the health and hygiene of expectant mothers. In the next year, however, owing to paucity of funds the scheme of appointing more Health Visitors was held in abeyance, but the class was later revived in the year 1944 and has been continuing since then. Special emphasis was given to the training of Maternity Health Visitors in the First Five-Year Plan of the district. During 1956-57, a sum of Rs. 48,000 was spent on the scheme, and ten visitors were trained.

By 1929-30, Maternity and Child Welfare Centres were opened at Madhoganj, Morar and Lashkar. In the following year, a Child Welfare centre at Janakganj Female Dispensary and a maternity home at Bhandar were opened. Before the First Five-Year Plan commenced, the following five maternity homes with 76 bed-strength existed in the district:—

- (1) Laxmiganj Maternity Home.
- (2) Laxmibai Sitole Maternity Home Madhoganj, Lashkar.
- (3) Morar Maternity Home.
- (4) Gwalior Maternity Home.
- (5) Maternity Home, Bhandar.

During the First Plan period, a maternity home was opened at Dabra in the Pichhore tahsil. Fifty additional beds in the maternity ward of the Kamla Raja Hospital, Gwalior, have also been provided during 1956-57 at a cost of Rs. 20,000.

Skimmed milk powder received from the U.N.I.C.E.F., and the Red Cross Society is also freely distributed at Maternity and Child Welfare Centres to poor and under-nourished children up to 12 years of age and to expectant and nursing mothers. Priority is given to those children, who suffer from rickets and mal-nutrition, etc., and the children are selected on the basis of a family income not exceeding Rs. 40 per month.

As it is still not possible to extend institutional or domiciliary midwifery services by trained attendants to the entire population, the large bulk of midwifery services in villages continue to be rendered by indigenous *dais*. It has, therefore, been decided to orient them in principles of asepsis and other essential techniques so as to enable them to provide safe maternity services. For this purpose, a training centre has been opened at Dabra from 1958. During this year 20 indigenous *dais* were given such training.



### Ayurvedic and Unani Hospitals

In addition to the Allopathic hospitals and dispensaries, the practice of the indigenous systems of medicine was made systematic and popular in the former Gwalior State. For this purpose a pharmacopoeia of indigenous drugs was compiled and circulated in 1918-19. A reward to the extent of Rs. 1,000 was announced for any Medical Officer who brought to the notice of the Chief Medical Officer any indigenous drug of a special nature. The hospitals and dispensaries were encouraged to use indigenous drugs, wherever possible. On the basis of a study of local herbs, a small book called 'The Medicinal Plants in Gwalior' was compiled in 1924-25. Medical Officers in charge of hospitals and dispensaries were supplied with copies of this book, which together with 'The Gwalior Indigenous Drugs and Pharmacopoeia' were to serve the main authority for indigenous medicines. The Medical Officers were required to treat on scientific lines a certain number of patients with these drugs, which were prepared at the Allopathic hospitals.

One of the special features of the administration of the Medical Department of the former Gwalior State was to give State patronage to Ayurvedic, Unani and Homeopathic system. As far back as the year 1930, the Municipal Committee, Lashkar, had an Ayurvedic dispensary with branches at Gwalior and Morar. This dispensary received grant-in-aid from the Government. In order to select qualified *Vaidyas* and *Hakims* a departmental examination was held in 1926-27 with the help of the *Vaidyas* and *Hakims* of Lashkar.

In 1927-28, an Ayurvedic dispensary was opened at Pichhore. A pharmacy for the preparation and supply of Ayurvedic and Unani medicines also functioned at Lashkar as a limited concern which also treated patients who came there. In 1930, it was placed under the supervision of the *Vaidya* of the Municipal Ayurvedic Dispensary, Lashkar. After the formation of the former Union of Madhya Bharat, this pharmacy and the pharmacy at Indore were amalgamated into one and a new Central Pharmacy was established at Gwalior where standardised medicines are prepared and distributed. During 1956-57, this pharmacy was re-organised at a cost of Rs. 24,000.

During the period of the First and the Second Five-Year Plans, Gwalior district has registered considerable progress in the opening of Ayurvedic institutions. An Ayurvedic College Hospital, with 25 bed-strength, was opened at Lashkar at a cost of Rs. 1,16,695. At first this hospital was housed in a rented building but now it has a separate building constructed at a cost of Rs. 6,37,000. In 1956-57, 25 additional beds have been provided and an outdoor dispensary has been attached to this hospital. In the same year the Principal of the Ayurvedic College, Gwalior, was deputed to undergo training at the Central Institute of Research in Indigenous systems of Medicine, Jamnagar, so that post-graduate training might be started at Gwalior for *Vaidyas* in Ayurveda.



During 1959-60, Ayurvedic and Unani dispensaries existed at the following places in Gwalior district:—

Tahsil	Villages
Gird	Chatigaon, Purani Chhawani, Karahiya, Barai, Aron, Mohana, Behata, Patai
Bhander	Gondan, Sarsai, Badera Supan
Pichhore	Bhitarwar, Sakhui, Magrora, Bilaua, Cheenor, Sukulahari, Amrol, Hastanapur

*Source.*—District Medical Officer, Gwalior.

#### PRIVATE HOSPITALS AND NURSING HOMES

There are no private hospitals and nursing homes in the district, except that one private practitioner at Lashkar runs a dispensary where indoor patients are treated. A branch of the Indian Medical Association exists at Gwalior, having a membership of 87. The number of medical practitioners in the district, practising Allopathic, Ayurvedic and Unani systems of medicines is given in the table below :—

	Private Practice	In Govt. Service
(1) Allopathic doctors	33	74
(2) Ayurvedic and Unani Practitioners	522	30
Total ..	555	104

#### MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCH CENTRES

**Nutrition Research.**—Research work in nutrition was taken up in the Gwalior State as early as in 1936-37 when two medical officers were sent out for training in this work. The patients' diet was regulated in the hospitals according to the nutrition chart prepared by these officers. From 1954-55, a special nutrition centre has been established at the J. A. Hospital, Lashkar, under a Dietician. He looks after the kitchen of the Hospital and gets special diets prepared according to the needs of the patients and also gives advice regarding the diet of patients suffering from various diseases. In addition, he gives training in nutrition studies to the students of the G. R. Medical College, Gwalior.



**The Gwalior Medical Association.**—For discussing medical and scientific subjects and demonstrating interesting cases, a Medical Association was formed at Gwalior at the beginning of the year 1923. In 1931-32 it was decided to start a half-yearly magazine of the Association, which started publication in the next year.

In 1947 this Association was merged with the Madhya Bharat Medical Association and in 1956 with the Madhya Pradesh Medical Association.

**Family Planning.**—As a result of the growth of population studies carried out in the country, the question of the limitation of family received earnest attention. One result of this was the increasing emphasis on the need for family planning. With the help of the Government of India, the scheme for family planning was undertaken by the Medical Departments in different States. At Gwalior this was started in 1955, with the establishment of Family Planning Clinics.

Family planning clinics are classified into three categories, viz:—

- (1) Family planning clinics attached to teaching institutions for Nurses, Health Visitors and Auxiliary Nurse Midwives.
- (2) Urban Family planning clinics.
- (3) Rural Family planning clinics.

In Gwalior district, one Urban Family planning clinic was established at Gwalior in 1955. It was upgraded to a clinic attached to a teaching institution in 1959. The Mahila Mandal, Gwalior established an Urban Family planning clinic in the year 1959, with financial assistance from the Government of India.

A Family planning clinic was opened at the J. C. Mills, Gwalior, with the assistance of the Government of India.

The number of rural Family planning clinics established in the district and the institutions to which they are attached is given below:—

Year	Number established	Institutions to which attached.
1958-59	3	Primary Health Centres.
1959-60	2	Attached to Hospitals and Dispensaries.
1960-61	4	do.

In order to man these centres, six doctors and six social workers were trained at the Family Planning Clinic, J. A. Hospital, Gwalior, in 1955. Further, four Family planning orientation training camps were held during 1960-61, and the Government of India appointed an honorary official-in-charge of Family Planning education for Gwalior.



## SANITATION

**Administrative Set-up.**—The overall responsibility for the maintenance of public health in both the urban and rural areas of the districts is that of the Medical and Public Health Department. In the urban areas, this is primarily the responsibility of the municipal committees. The city of Lashkar had a Municipal Committee as far back as in the year 1887 and for a time, a Medical officer of the mofussil acted as a part-time Health Officer. On the 1st May 1918 the Town Improvement Act, was brought into force in the Gwalior State and under it, an Improvement Trust was created for the city of Gwalior. One of the functions of this Trust was to improve the sanitation of Lashkar and other towns by opening out congested areas.

The administrative set-up for the rural areas has, however, varied from time to time. For quite a long time, one of the duties of the Pargana Revenue Officers in the Gwalior State was to ensure cleanliness and sanitation of villages and to provide at State expense the means of water supply where it was scarce. In 1908-09, the Superintendents of Dispensaries in the Circle were made *ex-officio* Sanitary or Health Officers of their circles. Later, with the introduction of the Medical Manual in the year 1911, sanitation formed one of the additional duties of the Chief Medical Officer. In 1915-16, he was appointed an *ex-officio* member of the Revenue Board for co-ordinating the work of Pargana Revenue Officers in the matter of rural sanitation. Village Sanitation Committees were also formed in 1923-24 for improving sanitary condition of villages.

It was, however, soon recognised that a separate organisation for carrying out sanitary measures systematically and on scientific principles was very necessary. Accordingly a new scheme was sanctioned in 1926, under which a Deputy Sanitary Commissioner was appointed to assist the Chief Medical Officer in the discharge of his duties of Sanitary Commissioner. The Deputy Sanitary Commissioner did a considerable amount of propaganda work in villages in regard to public health and sanitation. A scheme to re-organise the Village Sanitation Department was again considered in the year 1944-45 and as a result, a separate Public Health Department with a Director of Public Health under the Chief Medical Officer was established on the 1st April 1947. The functions of the new Department were to look after village sanitation, maternity and child welfare, health education and propaganda, anti-malaria campaign, epidemics, etc.

On the formation of the Union of Madhya Bharat, the Public Health Department was again reorganised and placed under the charge of the Director of Health Services. Under this set-up, there was a Medical Officer of Health, a Sanitary Inspector and five extra Sanitary Inspectors for the supervision of public health activities in the Gwalior district. An Anti-Malaria Unit, with the necessary staff, was attached to the district while for maternity and child



welfare work, health visitors were posted, and travelling dispensaries were provided. This organisation broadly continues to function after the formation of Madhya Pradesh.

As one of the measures for counter-acting the ravages caused by epidemic diseases in the first decade of this century, the Chief Medical Officer was asked to devise measures for improving sanitation. To assist the people in this matter, a hand-book was got prepared, written in easily intelligible language, describing the rules of sanitation and giving general hints on healthy living. Thus a Sanitation Manual was got prepared in 1910-11. During the first and second decades, the Municipal Committees of Lashkar, Gwalior and Morar were actively busy in improving the sanitation of the city, clearing up unhealthy areas, improving drains, conservancy arrangements and shifting of burning and burial grounds out-side the city, etc.

A chlorine generating apparatus was purchased by the State in 1923-24 and thereafter chlorogen required for local use was manufactured at Lashkar. The Municipal Committees of Lashkar, Gwalior and Morar adopted the method of burning refuse and filth by means of incinerators or burying them in trenches.

**Water Works, Lashkar :—**The first scheme for the supply of water to Lashkar was drawn up in the year 1906 when plans were made to supply water from the Ramova Reservoir and the Sank River. It was, however, not until 1926 that the Council of Regency sanctioned the construction of water works which would draw its supplies from the Tigra Irrigation Reservoir, 11 miles from the capital. The foundation stone of the Power House was laid in 1929 by Lord Irwin, the then Viceroy of India, and the scheme was completed the following year, water being supplied to Lashkar early in May. The water from the Tigra Reservoir is carried by the Tigra canal up to Motijheel, where it is filtered and chlorinated. Thereafter it is pumped up to the Service Reservoir on the Rakkas Hill from where it is distributed to the city.

During the First Five-Year Plan period, the water works was greatly expanded for enabling it to meet the demand of the growing population of Greater Gwalior. Besides effecting a number of major and minor improvements to the water works, two filters and two high lifts have recently been erected at a cost of about Rs. 20.00 lakhs. The capacity of the filtration plant at Motijheel has been further augmented in the Second Plan and the 24" pipe-line replaced by 30" pipes, the total cost being Rs. 24.21 lakhs.

**Drainage.**—Lashkar's drainage system was first discussed in 1906 when the first water supply scheme was being drawn up. The scheme of construction was not, however, sanctioned until 1926, the construction commencing the following year. The scheme provides open drains throughout the city for the removal of sullage water, flush urinals and latrines, pail depots and incinerators. The main scheme was completed by the beginning of 1936 at a total cost of Rs. 25.5 lakhs. Later, drainage works were also completed in Gwalior and Morar, the work at the latter place costing Rs. 1,63,564.



The Sewage Disposal Plant, which was established in 1932-33, is located three miles beyond old Gwalior and there is a sewage farm of 500 acres for the disposal of sewage by land treatment. A similar farm was set up at Morar in 1935-36. During the same year, the Morar Drainage system and the underground drainage system of the Gwalior Mela ground were also completed.

Until 1912-13, sanitation in villages had not made sufficient start in the district. Later on, the Circle Superintendents of Dispensaries visited many villages to take special note of the source of water supply. It was found that mostly on account of carelessness in the matter of drinking water, many diseases (including epidemics) occurred in the villages. With a view to stopping this evil, construction of parapet walls to wells and their disinfection with potassium permanganate and chlorogen was undertaken from 1922-23. Entrance to step-wells was closed and construction of such wells in future was discouraged.

As a result of the scheme, approved in 1926, operations were planned in two directions. Construction of wells was undertaken in the first instance. At the same time, an organised extensive propaganda was carried out to awaken in village people a sense of the value of clean and healthy surroundings, giving them lessons on scientific and practical ways for the prevention of epidemics and preservation of health.

After about six years, the whole scheme was reviewed and a committee was appointed to examine what further action was necessary. The committee submitted its recommendations which included steps to provide adequate drinking water facilities in villages. It was decided to sink new wells and restore old ones, and the execution of these works was entrusted to the District Boards. Engineers of the Irrigation Department were asked to supervise these works and Superintendents of dispensaries were made responsible to see that the wells were dug according to correct sanitary principles.

A set of simple rules was drafted in 1930-31 for regulating the activities of Naib-Tahsildars and Sanitary Committees. These were later followed by the Village Sanitation Act. In 1935 the scheme of village sanitation was reorganised and a pilot project was started in Gird district at a cost of Rs. 25,000.

In the former Madhya Bharat, the activities of the Department included mass anti-cholera inoculation, disinfection of wells and other sources of water supply, vaccination and re-vaccination against small-pox, anti-malaria measures, health propaganda in important fairs through lectures, magic lantern shows, distribution of leaflets, film shows, and exhibition of health charts and models etc. Mobile units were also started for carrying out health propaganda and setting up health exhibition during different village fairs. In order to spread health propaganda and education, a Health Propaganda Unit was organised in the district under the District Medical Officer.



## CHAPTER XV

### OTHER SOCIAL SERVICES

#### LABOUR WELFARE

It was not until the pace of industrialisation had quickened in the country leading to an increase in the labour force and a consequent emergence of labour problems that the measures for the amelioration of labour were seriously thought of. Till about 1943 the problems of labour in Gwalior State did not assume any large proportion, and no need was felt for a separate administrative machinery for dealing with them. The subject was dealt with by the Department of Customs and Excise. The Assistant Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Gwalior Division, functioned as *ex-officio* Labour Officer in the division. Besides, there were separate Inspectorates of Commerce, Boilers and Factories, under the Department of Industries, Commerce and Communications.

It was by about 1943 that several measures of labour legislation were brought into force in Gwalior State. The Workmen's Compensation Act and the Maternity Benefits Act were enforced in 1942. A separate Labour Section was organised in 1943 as a part of the Department of Industries, Commerce and Communications, and a whole-time Labour Officer was appointed for the Gwalior division, who became later known as Senior Labour Officer. He functioned as the Commissioner for Workmen's Compensation and Maternity Benefits, and was also the Registrar of Trade Unions and the legal authority to hear and decide cases under the Payment of Wages Act, Gwalior State, Samvat 1998 (1941). In 1945 an Industrial Court was constituted at Gwalior consisting of a Judge of the High Court as President and two others as Members, under the Industrial Disputes Act, Gwalior State, Samvat 2002 (1945). The Member, Revenue Bench Appeal was appointed Conciliator under the Act for Gwalior division. Later, in 1947, a Labour Commissioner was appointed, as head of the department in charge of the Labour Section.

When Gwalior district came under Madhya Bharat a Deputy Commissioner of Labour was posted at Gwalior who also performed the duties of the Registrar of Trade Unions. He later got a Labour Officer and an Inspector of Minimum Wages to work under him. The present set-up in the district is that an Assistant Labour Commissioner is at Gwalior who looks after labour matters of both the revenue divisions of Gwalior and Bhopal. At the headquarters he is assisted by a Labour Officer for Gwalior division, a Minimum Wages Inspector and a Shops and Establishments Inspector. There is also a Senior Inspector of Factories stationed at Gwalior.

The former Gwalior State had passed a number of laws for the safety and welfare of labour. As early as 1931, a Factories Act had been enacted and brought into force. Among the legislative measures that were enacted in the



forties, apart from the Workmen's Compensation Act and the Maternity Benefits Act mentioned earlier, were:—

The Payment of Wages Act.

The Pledging of Children's Labour Act.

The Employment of Children's Act.

The Protection of Children Act.

The Employers' Liability Act.

The Factories Act was amended in 1946 by which the hours of work in all factories in the State were reduced from ten to nine hours a day. In the same year the Industrial Disputes Act and the Trade Unions Act, which had been enacted in the previous year, were made applicable to some important industries.

After the formation of Madhya Bharat not only were measures initiated for the social security and welfare of the working classes, but a uniform labour legislation was made applicable throughout the Union of Madhya Bharat by adapting the following nine labour laws which had been enacted by the Government of India and the Government of Bombay:—

- (1) The Indian Industrial Employments (Standing Orders) Act, 1946.
- (2) The Indian Factories Act, 1934 (later replaced by Act. No. LXIII of 1948).
- (3) The Indian Payment of Wages Act, 1936.
- (4) The Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923.
- (5) The Bombay Maternity Benefits Act, 1929.
- (6) The Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926.
- (7) The Indian Cotton, Ginning and Pressing Factories Act, 1925.
- (8) The Bombay Industrial Relations Act, 1947.
- (9) The Industrial Statistics Act, 1942.

The Indian Industrial Employments (Standing Orders) Act, 1946, requires the employer of every individual establishment in which one hundred and more workers are employed to submit to the certifying officer for certification, a draft standing orders proposed for adoption in his industrial establishment. The certifying officer sees that the draft standing orders contain provisions relating to the terms of service for the workers in conformity with the model standing orders framed by the State Government under the Act. By 1951-52 such standing orders were finalised in respect of the following industries of the district:—

- (1) Gwalior Potteries.
- (2) Madhya Bharat Roadways.
- (3) East India Carpet Factory, Gwalior.



- (4) J. B. Mangharam and Company, Gwalior,
- (5) Imperial Match Company, Gwalior,
- (6) Modern Printing Press, Gwalior.

During the same year, standing orders under the Bombay Industrial Relations Act were framed for the Dabra Sugar Factory and the Motilal Agrawal Mills, Gwalior.

The establishments under textile, sugar, oil, engineering and hosiery industries were governed by the Bombay Industrial Relations Act, while the other industries were governed by the Indian Industrial Disputes Act, which was made applicable in 1950. This latter Act provides for the investigation and settlement of industrial disputes and prohibits strikes and lock-out in Public Utility Services without due notice. The motor transport services, municipality, etc., were declared to be Public Utility Services under this Act. More legislative measures were undertaken in 1951-52 when the following Central Acts were also applied in the State : —

- (1) The Minimum Wages Act, 1948.
- (2) The Employees' Provident Fund Act, 1952.
- (3) The Indian Boilers Act, 1923, and
- (4) The Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948.

This was followed by the standardization of wages for the operatives in textile mills. In respect of the sugar industry, the minimum monthly wage and dearness allowance was fixed at Rs. 26 and Rs. 25, respectively. The Shops and Establishment Act, which was enacted in 1952 was later replaced in 1958 when the M. P. Shops and Establishment Act, 1958 was brought into force with effect from 1st January 1959. This provides many benefits to the employees in shops etc., more or less similar to those provided to the workers under the Factories Act, in respect of hours of work, weekly holidays, etc. In Greater Gwalior, this Act is administered by the Municipal Corporation with the aid of three Inspectors.

Another important scheme introduced by the Madhya Bharat Government was the organisation of a separate judiciary for deciding labour disputes. Under this scheme, an Industrial Court was established and located at Indore in 1949-50, when a Labour Court was also constituted at Gwalior and other places under the Bombay Industrial Relations Act. These Courts continue to function. The Judge of the Labour Court at Gwalior also discharges the functions of the Commissioner under the Workmen's Compensation Act. He is at the same time an authority under the Payment of Wages Act and the Minimum Wages Act. He is the Judge of the Employees' State Insurance Court as well. The decisions of this court under the Bombay Industrial Relations Act are appealable to the Industrial Court while in respect of others an appeal lies only to the High Court. The total number of cases received and disposed of,



and the amount of compensation ordered to be paid by this court during the years 1957 to 1959 are shown below:—

Year	Balance of cases carried forward from the previous year	No. of cases received during the year	Total number for disposal	No. of cases disposed of	No. of cases pending	Amount of compensation ordered
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
<b>Under Bombay Industrial Relations Act</b>						
						Rs. nP
1957	126	153	279	125	154	..
1958	154	129	283	152	131	..
1959	131	76	207	124	83	..
<b>Under Workmen's Compensation Act</b>						
1957	10	4	14	9	5	8,058.75
1958	5	7	12	6	6	7,045.00
1959	6	10	16	10	6	14,300.00
<b>Under Payment of Wages Act</b>						
1957	10	10	20	7	13	382.62
1958	13	14	27	14	13	252.67
1959	13	16	29	17	12	11,719.08
<b>Under Minimum Wages Act</b>						
1957	6	..	6	6	..	372.00
1958	..	1	1	..	1	..
1959	1	3	4	1	3	1,519.00
<b>Under Employees' State Insurance Act</b>						
1957	2	4	6	2	4	..
1958	4	6	10	4	6	..
1959	6	6	12	3	9	..

**Workmen's Compensation Act.**—Under the Act payment of compensation has been made obligatory for injuries received during employment, occupational diseases and deaths resulting from such injuries and diseases. Employees earning up to Rs. 400 are covered by the Act, which is administered by the Commissioner appointed by State Government. In areas in which the Employees' State Insurance Scheme has been implemented, the payment of workmen's compensation is the responsibility of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation. At the Labour Court, Gwalior, the compensation paid under this Act to workers from April 1957 to July 1961 amounted to Rs. 25,797 for fatal accident and Rs. 1,564 for disablement.



**Maternity Benefit Act.**—Provision has been made under this Act, for the payment of a cash benefit to women for specified periods before and after child birth, a compulsory period of rest after delivery and also before delivery if notice is given. The Act lays down a qualifying period for the earning of the benefit. The Employees' State Insurance Act 1948, also regulates payment of maternity benefits. Sixty-one factories in Gwalior district were covered by this Act in 1958. The number brought under the Act in 1959 was 58.

**Worker's Participation in Management.**—Apart from legislative measures for the welfare and benefit of labour, a major reform considered beneficial for harmonious industrial relations and for the development of a deeper attachment in the labour to the industry in which they worked, was the creation of workers' participation in industrial management. A study group set up to report on the question of workers' participation in management published its report at the end of May 1957, which recommended among other measures, that the Government of India should put through enabling legislation to direct selected industries to operate schemes relating to workers' participation in management.

The Indian Labour Conference, which met in July 1957, appointed a tripartite Committee to compile a list of major industries in the public and private sectors in which workers' participation in management could be introduced. The Conference which included representatives of All-India Federation of Employees and Employers, State Government and the Central Government, compiled a list early in August. Under this scheme there would be a Joint Council of Management with six representatives of the workers, four from amongst the employees of the Mill and two to be non-workers nominated by the representative Union. In the public sector the scheme has been introduced in the Gwalior Leather, Tannery and Tent Factory, Morar, as a result of an agreement between the management and the union on the 31st January 1958.

**Technical Training Scheme.**—Another direction in which the efficiency and interest of the worker has been sought to be promoted, is by providing facilities for training and education for the industrial labour.

As a part of the Craftsmen Training Scheme launched by the Government of India, Ministry of Labour and Employment, the Technical Training Programme in the State was entrusted to the Labour Department in April 1957 under a contributory scheme according to which the total expenditure is shareable in the ratio of 60:40 between Central and State Governments respectively. Under the Scheme following measures have been taken in Gwalior district:—

(i) **Industrial Training Institute, Gwalior.**—An Industrial Training Institute was established at Gwalior in July 1958 for which an amount of Rs. 12 lakhs was provided in the Second Plan. In the Institute, training is imparted in seven trades, viz., Draughtsmen (Mech.), Fitter, Machinist, Welder, Turner, Blacksmith and Moulding. In both the first and second shifts 132 seats have been sanctioned. After passing out from the Institute, the trainees were sent



for receiving training in the various industrial establishments like the Bhilai Steel Plant, Heavy Electricals Goods Factory, Bhopal, Ordnance Factories, Jabalpur and M. P. Electricity Board etc.

(ii) **National Apprenticeship Training Centre, Gwalior.**—In order to train more technical personnel, a National Apprenticeship Training Centre has been started at Gwalior from 1959. This is under a centrally sponsored scheme and 60 per cent of the expenditure is borne by the Director General of Resettlement and Employment, Government of India. The trainees of this Centre are given training in different trades, such as Draughtsmanship, Machineman, Smithy, Carpentry etc., by placing them, in the bigger industrial undertaking at Gwalior like CIMCO, the J. C. Mills, Gwalior Engineering Works etc. After a written test and an interview 72 trainees were selected and training was started from 15th January, 1959. As against the sanctioned strength of 90 seats, there were 39 apprentices on roll in March 1959.

(iii) **Evening Classes for Industrial Workers.**—In order to improve theoretical knowledge of the industrial workers in regard to their jobs and to equip them for promotion to higher posts a post-employment training in workers' evening classes has been started at the school building of the J. C. Mills. During the year 1957-58 an amount of Rs. 5,390 was sanctioned for this purpose. The number of sanctioned seats for 1958-59 was 25 as against which 17 trainees were on roll. The cost of running the entire project for the period from 1957 to 1961 was estimated at Rs. 28,980.

The following table would show the financial and physical targets fixed for all the above three schemes:—

S. No.	Name of the scheme	Yearly physical target (No. of trainees)	State Government Financial Target 1958-59	State Govt. Financial Target 1959-60	State Govt. Financial Target 1960-61	Remarks
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1.	Industrial Training Institute	264	1.89 lakhs	1.62 lakhs	1.65 lakhs	This is a centrally sponsored scheme and 60 per cent expenditure is borne by the Central Govt. while 40 per cent by State Govt.
2.	National Apprenticeship Training Centre.	90	0.31 lakhs	0.28 lakhs	0.243 lakhs	do.
3.	Evening Classes for Industrial Workers.	25	0.044 lakhs	0.032 lakhs	0.02 lakhs	do.



**Maternity and Child Welfare.**—During 1954-55, the State Government sanctioned a sum of Rs. 43,000 for establishing a Health Centre at Gwalior to look after the entire medical needs of the women and children of workers. During the First Plan period a sum of Rs. 12,820 was spent on this project. After re-organisation of States, the health centre with 20 bed Maternity Ward was started on 26th January 1957 at Gwalior. The funds for Maternity Ward were provided by the Health Department of the State.

While the schemes described above for the preservation of the interests of Labour generally are within the province of Government's attention and care, there has been some effort on the part of others as well, employers, organisation of employees, public bodies, for providing amenities and welfare services to the industrial workers. In Gwalior district the pioneer in this field was the Jiwajirao Cotton Mills Ltd., Gwalior, which established some time in the thirties an association called the Shramjivi Hitkarini Sanstha. This body was composed of ten representatives of the employees and two of the mill authorities. It ran schools for children and adults and provided a number of other facilities such as a library, hospital, maternity home, gymnasiums, rest houses and a Labourers' Bank. The association also worked for the uplift of labourers by campaigning against social evils. Although this association as such does not now exist, the J. C. Mills continue to run all the above institutions except the hospital, which has been closed since the Employees' State Insurance Scheme came into operation. Besides, there is also a well managed canteen in the Mills. From 1950-51, a cinema theatre has also been installed there for the workers.

Apart from the efforts of the employers in this direction certain labour unions have also started some labour welfare centres. There were three such centres in the Gwalior city, namely at Sewanagar, Industrial Area Colony and at Gauspura until 1959, when the centre at Gauspura was discontinued. In its place, two branches have been started of the Centre at the Industrial Area Colony. All labour welfare centres are run by the Gwalior Mazdoor Congress, which also receives from the Government an annual grant-in-aid of Rs. 7,500 for this purpose. The Centre at Sewanagar has many educational, cultural and recreational activities such as primary schools, sewing and embroidery classes for women, a reading room and a library, a homeopathic dispensary, indoor and outdoor games and radio programmes. An *akhada* building has recently been constructed at this Centre out of the money and labour contributed by the workers. The centres at the Industrial Area Colony provided newspapers, indoor and outdoor games, radio programmes, film shows and dramas only until 1959 when a music school, primary schools and a Shishu Mandir were also started there. *Akhadas* and *Sewadal* rallies are also organized at these centres particularly at the time of the celebration of festivals of national importance.

Another labour welfare centre has been established at Dabra from 1956-57. It is run by the Shakkar Mill Mazdoor Sangh, Dabra which receives an annual grant-in-aid of Rs. 2,500 from the Government. The Centre attracts



workers in the crushing season only, *i.e.*, from November to April-May. It also provides educational and recreational facilities in the form of indoor games, newspapers, dramas and night classes for adult workers. A small dispensary, a primary school and a labour canteen are also run by this Centre.

The Labour Department has powers of supervision and control over the activities of those centres, which receive grant-in-aid from the Government.

### PROHIBITION

Although Gwalior is a wet district, there have been attempts made by different agencies in the past to introduce partial prohibition. The noteworthy attempt in this direction was made in 1946 when the Raj Sabha of the former Gwalior State passed a resolution recommending to the Government the introduction of prohibition in three districts of Gwalior State including the Gwalior district. This attempt, however, failed partly because the Government was unable to forego the excise revenue. For the same reason, the Government of Madhya Bharat also could not introduce this measure although it was committed to the all-India policy of gradual extension of prohibition in the State. This position continues to the present.

At the same time temperance measures, the forerunner of prohibition, have been undertaken by the Government from time to time. These include the imposition of several restrictions in the way of getting drinks by reducing the proof gallons, and the gradual closure of liquor shops, etc. For example, the strength of 'Masala' liquor, which was 20 under proof until 1949-50, was reduced to 25 under proof in the succeeding year. Likewise from 1st April 1958 the strength of 'Dabra' liquor, was reduced from 35 under proof to 45 under proof. In the following year 'Asha' liquor, which was consumed mostly in the rural areas in this district, was banned. The number of liquor shops has also been progressively reduced, nine such shops having been closed in 1958-59.

Apart from these measures, propaganda in favour of prohibition is also conducted by official and non-official agencies. This includes the observance of 'Prohibition Week', when concentrated propaganda is carried out through processions, meetings, film-shows, literary competitions etc.

### ADVANCEMENT OF BACKWARD CLASSES AND TRIBES

According to the Census of 1951, 19.6 per cent of the total population of the Gwalior district, namely 1,04,340 persons belong to the Scheduled Castes (Harijans) while 10,981 (2.07 per cent) belong to the Scheduled Tribes (Adivasis).

A separate organisation for dealing with Harijan Welfare work existed in the former Gwalior State, where a Welfare Officer for Depressed Classes and District Harijan Organizers were appointed at the State and District levels respectively. After the formation of Madhya Bharat, a new Department, called the Harijan and Adivasi Uplift Department, was created to look after the



social, economic and educational advancement of the Harijan and Adivasi population. This Department was, however, merged in the Development Department in 1950-51. Under this arrangement, the execution of welfare schemes for Harijans and Adivasis was entrusted at the district level to the Collector, who was assisted by the District Development Officer and District Harijan Organiser, the latter in turn being assisted by a Tahsil Harijan Sewak for each tahsil. Although in Madhya Pradesh, the Directorate of Tribal Welfare and Social Welfare are in charge of Harijan and Tribal Welfare work at the State level, the District Harijan Organizer continues to function in the Gwalior district under the supervision of the Collector. He is assisted by three Tahsil Harijan Sewaks, one for each tahsil.

The Government of the former Gwalior State had undertaken several measures for the uplift of Harijans. As early as the thirties, Harijan and Adivasi Schools, including a Harijan Girls School at Gwalior, were established for providing special educational facilities for the children of backward classes. A special grant of Rs. 15,000 was also sanctioned by the Government in 1940-41 for Harijan welfare activities, a part of which was placed at the disposal of the Gwalior Harijan Sewak Sangh to be spent on scholarships, books, stationery and hostel facilities for Harijan boys and girls. A further step was taken in 1945, when the Ruler made an announcement, throwing open to Harijans all State temples, Government schools, wells and other public places. In the same year Harijans were also granted the same rights of citizenship as were enjoyed by the caste Hindus in the State. At the same time, some Harijans were nominated to the State's Praja Sabha and the District and Pargana Boards. This was followed by an important reform in 1947 when a legislative measure, called the Harijan Disability Removal Act, was enacted in the State for the removal of the civil and social disabilities of the Harijans. In the period that has followed a series of measures have been undertaken for the amelioration of the social and economic conditions of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. To begin with, after the formation of Madhya Bharat, a unified legislation called the Harijan Social Disabilities Removal Act was passed during 1948-49, which made it an offence to discriminate between Harijans and non Harijans, in social occupations, employment, places of entertainment, business, etc. This Act later stood repealed after the coming into force from 1st June 1955 of the Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955, passed by the Indian Parliament.

The other measures for the welfare of Backward classes may be classified under three broad heads, *viz.*, education, economic and public health:—

**Education.**—All Harijan and Adivasi students have been granted full exemption from tuition fees in all Government educational institutions, since 1948-49. They are also offered scholarships and stipends, books, examination fees etc. The table below shows the expenditure over these items and the



number of students, who have availed of these facilities in the Gwalior district :—

Year	Total amount spent on scholarships, examination fees, books etc. for Harijans	No. of Harijan students benefitted	Total amount spent on scholarships, examination fees, books etc., for Adivasis	No. of Adivasi students benefitted
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
	Rs.		Rs.	
1949-50	15,176	N. A.	240	N. A.
1950-51	10,161	N. A.	260	23
1951-52	18,268	721	590	33
1952-53	32,192	1,730	998	41
1953-54	69,863	3,845	1,624	N. A.
1954-55	47,696	for both Harijans and Adivasis		N. A.
1955-56	67,429	"	"	N. A.
1956-57	50,260	228	5,585	50
1957-58	74,723	657	for both Harijans and Adivasis	
1958-59	67,015	729	204	7
1959-60	37,192	916	150	23
Total	4,89,975	8,826	9,651	177

It may be noted here that from 1959-60, scholarships have been discontinued to Scheduled Caste students, studying in classes I to V. Apart from these facilities, the Government sanctioned an annual grant of Rs. 14,000 to the Scindia School, Gwalior, during 1954-55 and 1955-56 for giving free education to the children of Harijans and Adivasis. From the session of 1956-57, however, seven seats have been earmarked in this school for these classes, for which the school gets an annual grant of Rs. 11,200 (Rs. 1,600 per student) from the Government.

**Jeewan Vikas Kendras.**—During the First Five-Year Plan period, educational facilities were provided for Harijan adults as well. For this purpose, four *Jeewan Vikas Kendras* were established at Mohna, Ghatigaon, Chandrol and Billauwa. Each Kendra covered a group of about 25-30 villages and was under the charge of a Harijan Sewak. Under each Kendra, three adult education centres were opened. In all, 516 persons were made literate at these centres up to March 1956. During the period from 1952-53 to 1955-56, an expenditure of Rs. 19,361 was incurred on these Kendras. In April, 1956, however, the scheme of *Jeewan Vikas Kendras* was discontinued.

**Harijan Sanskar Kendra.**—With a view to improving the social environments of Harijans, a *Sanskar Kendra* has been established at Dabra in 1956-57, on which an amount of Rs. 5,000 was spent till the end of 1959. This institution is in the charge of a Social Worker, who is assisted by a Lady Social Worker



and an assistant. This staff undertakes propaganda against untouchability, attends to drinking water facilities, sanitation and other problems of the Harijans. A *Balwadi* for the children of caste Hindus and Harijans has also been started at this *Kendra* where mid-day meals are provided to them. The number of children at this *Balwadi* towards the end of 1959 was 32.

**Harijan Balwadi.**—In order to educate Harijan children on the lines of the Montessori system a Harijan *Balwadi* was established at village Billaui in the Pichhore tahsil during the First Plan period. Children between the ages of three and six are admitted there and are given mid-day meals. Till the end of First Plan period 43 Harijan boys and 47 girls had been educated at this *Balwadi* while in 1956-57, 11 boys and 25 girls were on roll. A separate building has recently been constructed for this institution at a cost of Rs. 2,500.

**Adult Education Centres for Adivasis.**—Two Adivasi Adult Education Centres have also been started for Adivasis from 1950-51 at Aron and Harsi in the Gwalior and Pichhore tahsils, respectively. During the First Plan Period, 80 Adivasi adults benefitted from these centres.

**Technical Education.**—A scheme has been launched to provide facilities for technical education to the Adivasis. Under this scheme, a Vocational Training Institute has been started at Mohna from 1953-54, where admission is given to Adivasi boys. The Institute provides training in crafts, such as carpentry, bamboo work and the like, and has a capacity of 12 seats. Each trainee is given a stipend of Rs. 15 per month. Two instructors, one for carpentry and other for bamboo work have been appointed in this Institute. During 1959-60, there were 12 trainees on roll—6 for carpentry and 6 for bamboo work.

**Hostels.**—Two non-official organisations, viz., the Harijan Sewak Sangh and the Seharia Sewak Sangh, are running hostels for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes at Gwalior and Mohna respectively. Each hostel has a capacity of 20 seats and receives an annual grant-in-aid of Rs. 4,800 from the Government. The Government is also running a Harijan hostel at Bhandar. Besides meeting the boarding and lodging expenses of the students, the Government also provides them with clothing, bedding, etc.

The problem of landlessness among the Schedule Castes and Scheduled Tribes is being tackled by the Government and by the Bhoodan Board, which have distributed lands to them for cultivation purposes. The achievements of this scheme till the end of 1959 are given in the table below:—

Class	Number of families benefitted	Acres
(1)	(2)	(3)
Adivasis	2,443	581.17
Harijans	2,645	550.62
Total	5,088	1,131.79



For utilising the lands granted to them monetary grants are also made available by the Government to each recipient family.

**Colonization.**—Colonization work of Scheduled Tribes has been taken up under a centrally sponsored scheme, under which 200 families are to be settled on land each year in colonies, and they are to be given all facilities necessary to make a start as agriculturists. Each family gets a subsidy of Rs. 850 for meeting the expenses on purchase of bullocks and agricultural implements and for the construction of huts, and a sum of Rs. 300 is given as development charges. Colonization work has been undertaken at village Hastanapur in the Gird tahsil, where 20 have been settled so far. A sum of Rs. 58,960 has been spent on this project while about 800 acres of land have been allotted.

**Co-operative Societies.**—In order to give economic security to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and relieve them from the clutches of various types of middlemen, the cooperative movement has been developed among these classes. As a result, the following three cooperative societies (two for Scheduled Castes and one for Scheduled Tribes) were organized during the First Plan period and a sum of Rs. 1,150 was spent on them:—

- (1) Adarsh Harijan Charmakar Cooperative Society, Gwalior.
- (2) Guricharm Sale Purchase Cooperative Society, Lashkar.
- (3) Seharia Cooperative Society, Aron.

These societies are also given subsidies by the Government.

**Piggery Scheme for Scheduled Castes.**—The sweepers are generally interested in rearing pigs and slaughtering them for table use, but their methods are primitive. In order to improve the breed of pigs and to slaughter them scientifically, a Piggery Centre has been set up in the Gwalior City at Kampoo since 1959. Five gilts of Berkshire are maintained at this Centre for improving the breed of pigs. Apart from improving the pig population, this scheme will also open a new trade in pig-skins. A sum of Rs. 7,250 was spent till 1959 on this project, which has been sponsored by the Central Government.

**Public Health.**—For providing adequate water-supply to the Harijans, a scheme has been introduced for the sinking of wells. The number of wells sunk and the amount spent on them till 1958-59 in the district are shown below:—

Year	Number of wells sunk	Amount spent in Rs.
(1)	(2)	(3)
1951-52	N. A.	3,185
1952-53	3	3,114
1953-54	7	2,641
1954-55	14	5,400



(1)	(2)	(3)
1955-56	7	4,426
1956-57	2	2,000
1957-58	13	6,000
	(3 for Harijan plus 10 for Sched- uled Tribes).	
1958-59	2	4,000
Total ..	48	30,766

Since 1954-55, these wells are sunk through the agency of the Mandal Gram Panchayat, to whom a grant is sanctioned every year.

**Other Measures.**—Apart from these measures, special safe-guards have also been provided in the Constitution for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the matter of representation in the Union and State Legislatures. Besides, they are given special preference in appointment to public services. The Madhya Bharat Government had issued orders reserving ten per cent posts in Government services and relaxing the age limit for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for entry into Government service. The Madhya Pradesh Government has raised the percentage of reservation as shown below:—

Class of Service	Percentage for Scheduled Castes	Percentage for Scheduled Tribes
(1)	(2)	(3)
I and II .. .. .	15	18
III and IV .. .. .	16	20

Efforts to improve the condition of Harijans and Adivasis are also made by certain non-official agencies. Prominent among them is the All-India Harijan Sewak Sangh, a branch of which was organized in the Gwalior State as early as in 1932. This branch was later merged in the Madhya Bharat Harijan Sewak Sangh. The following other institutions are doing Harijan Welfare work in the district:—

- (1) Madhya Bharat Depressed Classes League, Madhoganj, Lashkar.
- (2) District Depressed Classes League, Gwalior.
- (3) Gandhi Club, Lashkar.
- (4) Depressed Classes League, Morar.
- (5) Balmiki Azad Club, Lashkar.

These institutions receive financial assistance from the Government from time to time.

#### CHARITABLE ENDOWMENTS

It was a practice with the rulers of the Gwalior State to sanction cash grants or plots of rent-free lands for the rendering of specific services or for



charitable, religious and other similar purposes. Such grants were generally termed as *muafis* while the grantees were called *muafidars*. Grants, which were specially sanctioned for the performance of duties pertaining to places of worship, were called *deosthan muafis* while those made for other religious duties were called *dharmadyas*. A separate department, called the Muafi Department, was established in 1861 to look after and exercise control over the *muafidars*. This Department was headed by a Muafi Commissioner, who was assisted by Muafi Officers.

Besides, *muafis*, the State was also maintaining a number of charitable institutions within and outside its territories, such as *anna chhatras* (charitable feeding establishments), *shidas* (doles), temples, etc. During the first decade of this century, there were two *anna chhatras* at Gwalior, one for the Brahmins and the other for *Sanyasis*, where relief in the form of free cooked food was given to the *bonafide* poor and needy persons. *Anna chhatras* were also maintained at other important religious places in the country, viz., Mathura, Vrindaban, Allahabad, Benaras, Gaya etc., while *shidas* were distributed not only at Gwalior, but also in certain pilgrim centres outside the State. For the administration of these institutions, another Department, called the Sansthan Department, was set up in about 1904-05. This department was under the direct control of the then Dowager Maharani until 1910, when it was amalgamated with the Muafi Department. The year 1914-15 witnessed the creation of yet another department, viz., the Aukafs (Religious Endowments) Department, under which a Central Aukaf Committee, consisting of 30 members, was appointed. This department dealt with religious endowments received either in cash or kind from the State or with such other private and public endowments as were placed under its management. This department was also responsible for the maintenance and proper upkeep of public places of worship which received grants either in cash or land from the State. The work of supervising and inspecting the temples in the city of Lashkar was performed by a Temple Inspector. In the mofussil, the work of this department was carried on by District and Pargana Aukaf Committees, in which the different religious sects were represented. These committees, which functioned under the presidentship of District and Pargana Officers, collected subscriptions and utilized them towards repairing and restoring places of worship. They were invested with powers of receiving grants or cash allowances from the Government and of discontinuing the grant in cases where mismanagement of places of worship was detected. The scope of the Aukaf Department was enlarged in 1934-35 when the administration of land and cash *muafis* relating to *deosthans* was also transferred to it. The department underwent another organizational change in 1937 when it was made a section of the Muafi Department. At the same time, the Central Aukaf Committee was also abolished and its functions and powers were vested in the Muafi Commissioner, who was assisted by a Muafi Officer in each district. The subordinate Aukaf Committees were, however, continued. In Madhya Bharat, a unified machinery for the administration of charities and *muafis* was organized under the Revenue Department. Under this arrangement, the powers of the Muafi Officers were delegated to the Collectors. At the higher level the *muafi* administration was divided into



two divisions., viz. Gwalior and Indore, the former with headquarters at Shivpuri and the latter at Indore, each division being placed under the charge of the respective Commissioner. A Muafi Officer assisted the Commissioner in this work. The Aukaf Section of the former Gwalior State was placed under a separate officer, who also had his headquarters at Shivpuri. The offices of the Muafi Officer and the Aukaf Officer were shifted from Shivpuri to Gwalior in 1954 when they were attached to the office of the Commissioner, Gwalior Division. Under the present set-up, these two offices have been abolished and the *muafi* and *aukaf* work is looked after by the Commissioner and the Collector at the divisional and district level respectively.

Legislative measures have been taken from time to time for the control, etc., of religious and charitable endowments. A beginning was made in 1914 when the Religious Endowment Act was enacted and brought into force. It provided for the registration of all endowments to places of worship in a court. This was followed by the enactment of the Charitable Endowments Act, which was brought into force from 1916. This Act provided for the control and administration by the Government of charitable trusts, which were created by members of the public and which were voluntarily placed at its disposal by the donor. The Religious Endowment Act of 1914 was subsequently amended and the revised Act was brought into force from 1927. In Madhya Bharat the Central Charitable Endowments Act of 1890 was applied for the control, etc., of charitable endowments. The Finance Secretary to the Government functioned as the *ex-officio* Treasurer of Charitable Endowments until August, 1954, when the Revenue Secretary held this office. This position continued till 31st October 1956, when the Finance Secretary to the Madhya Pradesh Government was appointed as the *ex-officio* Treasurer.

Among the other charitable funds and trusts in the Gwalior district, the following deserve a mention since they are properly vested with the Treasurer under the Charitable Endowments Act:—

(i) Madhav Orphanage Fund.—This Fund was founded in 1907 out of public subscriptions, which were raised to make the providential escape of Madhav Rao Sindhia from a rail accident. In memory of this occasion an orphanage, called the Madhav Orphanage, was established at Laxmiganj in Lashkar in the same year. According to the audit report for 1954-55, this orphanage owns a capital of Rs. 1,55,821, on which an annual interest of Rs. 4,797 is earned. The institution also receives an annual grant of Rs. 1,000 from the Muafi Department.

(ii) Madhya Bharat Post War Services Reconstruction Fund.—This Fund was founded by the Government of India in 1945 for the collective benefit of those persons, who had served in the ranks or as non-combatants in the Defence Services during the Second World War. The share received by the former Madhya Bharat Government out of this Fund was Rs. 8,16,655 while its cash balance on the 1st November 1956, stood at Rs. 3,47,933. A Committee of



administration, with the Governor as Chairman and four others as members, has been constituted for the administration of this Fund. The activities of this Fund in the Gwalior Division consist of grant of loans for the purchase of sewing machines, opening of grocery shops etc., for the rehabilitation of ex-servicemen, financial assistance for the education of their children, free grants to Agricultural Cooperative Society formed by them for the purchase of bullocks etc.

The accounts of both these funds are subject to audit by the Local Fund Audit Department.

The following charitable funds in the district are only held in deposit by the Treasurer on behalf of their administration and trustees:—

- (1) Jija Maharaja Memorial Fund.
- (2) King Edward Memorial Trust, Gwalior.
- (3) Madhav Maharaja Scholarship Fund.
- (4) Jija Maharaja Bal Rakshak Sabha.
- (5) St. John's Ambulance Fund, Gwalior Branch.
- (6) Madhav Maharaja Memorial Fund.
- (7) Silver Jubilee Fund.
- (8) King Edward Anti-Tuberculosis Fund.

The following two special funds were also established by the rulers of the Gwalior State:—

**Gangajali Fund.**—The origin of this Fund dates back practically to the time when the Sindhia dynasty was established in Malwa. It was a custom, with the rulers of this dynasty to deposit ceremonially, on every Dussera Day, some substantial money into a secret reserve, called the *Gangajali Treasury*, the money so deposited being further known as '*Gangajali Fund*'. In this way, several lakhs of rupees were accumulated into this Fund, from which withdrawals were permissible only under the personal orders of ruler, and even so, only on occasions of grave emergency. Further, the Fund was treated as a sacred deposit of money, and to touch it in normal times was considered to be a sin.

After the formation of Madhya Bharat, the authority to control the administration of this Fund was first vested exclusively in the Rajpramukh and from 1954 in a Board of Trustees, which was constituted under the Madhya Bharat Gangajali Fund Trust Act, 1954. At the time of the formation of the trust in 1954, the balance in this Fund was Rs. 1.69 crores. The income from this Fund could be utilised for the promotion and implementation of schemes relating to (a) famine relief, (b) medical relief, and (c) education, for the benefit of those people who inhabit the territories of the former Gwalior State. The cash balance of this Fund on the 31st December, 1959 was Rs. 12.70 lakhs.



**Aukaf fund.**—The origin of this Fund can be traced to a Deosthan Trust, which was founded with a donation of 15 lakhs of rupees by the Ruler, who made another donation of a similar amount later. The expenses of the Aukaf Department were met from the interest on these donations and also from an annual grant of Rs. 20,000 given by the Ruler. Income from all unclaimed property in the State was also assigned for *Aukaf* work. Apart from these sources of income, cash and land grants, when resumed by the State for want of proper *sanads*, were also transferred to the Aukaf Department. The collections from all these sources constituted the Aukaf Fund, which was managed by the Accountant-General until 1919-20 when it was entrusted to a Board of Trustees. At present, the balance of the Aukaf Fund is about 35 lakhs of rupees. Its investment work is entrusted to the Finance Department while its administration rests with the Home Department. A Board of Trustees, with the Deputy Home Minister as President and five others as members, has recently been constituted for the management of this Fund.

**Muafis, etc.**—At present there are 794 *Muafis* in the Gwalior district. A sum of Rs. 4,10,576 is distributed to them as grants for the performance of religious functions. The Government also maintains two *anna chhatras*—one at Deokho in the Gwalior district and the other at Bhoorakho in the Shivpuri district. According to the budget for 1959-60 of the Aukaf Section of the territories of the ex-Gwalior State, the receipts of this section are of the order of Rs. 1,65,000 while its expenditure is about the same. Distribution of cash allowances, grants to various *pujaris* is the principal item of expenditure, which amounts to Rs. 1,49,000. There are at present 500 cash grant-holders in the Gwalior district, to whom a sum of Rs. 32,417 was distributed in 1959-60 for performing worship in temples.



## CHAPTER XVI

### PUBLIC LIFE AND VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS Representation in Legislatures

Although legislatures, in the modern sense, did not exist in the former Gwalior State, the Rulers of the State had adopted certain measures, from time to time, to associate the people in the framing of laws and in other matters of administration. The first step in this direction was taken as early as in 1906, when a nominated body with ten members, called the *Majlis-i-Khas*, was created with the primary object of advising the Ruler in matters of legislation. Later in 1912, another nominated body called the *Majlis-i-Kanoon*, was formed which consisted of all members of the *Majlis-i-Khas* and any number of additional members—official and non-officials—representing various classes and interests such as jagirdars, land-owners, bankers, mill-owners, etc. It was an expert body for advising Government on legislation. A further step was taken in 1921, when, side by side with the *Majlis-i-Kanoon*, another body called the *Majlis-i-Am* (Representative Assembly) was constituted. It was composed among others, of all the members of the *Majlis-i-Kanoon* and 63 non-official members, the latter having a majority over the official members, who had no vote. All the non-official members, except those representing the graduates, were indirectly elected by various institutions representing diverse interests such as District Boards, Municipalities, Aukaf Committees, Associations of Jagirdars and money-lenders, Chamber of Commerce, etc. The *Majlis-i-Am* could express its views, in the form of resolutions, on bills referred to it by Government but the resolutions had to be submitted to the Ruler, who was not bound to accept them.

An important constitutional advance was made in June 1939, when the Ruler made an announcement regarding the replacement of the *Majlis-i-Am* and *Majlis-i-Kanoon* by a bi-cameral legislature, to be known as Praja Sabha and Samant Sabha (later renamed Raj Sabha). These houses were given more opportunities for influencing the Government, in that, besides their legislative functions, they were also given powers to ask questions and supplementaries and discuss the budget. This announcement was followed by the appointment of a Franchise Committee in the same year, which was entrusted with the task of delimitation of constituencies in such a manner that no section of the people was left unrepresented and the franchise was extended up to 20 per cent of the adult population. On the recommendations of this Committee, the State was divided into two kinds of constituencies, viz., special and territorial, the former representing various interests such as trade and commerce, industries, jagirdars etc., and the latter, which was further divided into urban and rural, representing the people of the State. The elections to the Praja Sabha and the Raj Sabha could, however, be held only in 1945, when the former had a strength of 90 members, of whom 55 were directly elected while the remaining 35, including 15 officials, were nominated. The Raj Sabha was composed of



40 members, out of whom 20 were directly elected and the rest, including 12 officials, were nominated. Under this composition of the two houses, the constituencies covering the Gwalior district were as shown below:—

Praja Sabha			Raj Sabha		
Territorial		Special interests	Territorial		Special interest
Urban	Rural		Urban	Rural	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1. Lashkar city North-East.	1. Gird Tahsil.	1. The Chamber of Commerce and all Mandi Committees of the State.	1. Lashkar City East.	1. Gird district.	1. Trade and Industries Northern Division including the Chamber of Commerce, all Mandi Committees, Mill and Factory Owners of Gird, Bhind Morena, Sheopur Shivpuri and Guna districts.
	2. Pichhore Tahsil.	2. All the Mill and Factory Owners of the State.	2. Lashkar City West.		
2. Lashkar city South-West.	3. Ghatigaon Tahsil.	3. All the Mill and Factory Labour of the State.			2. Northern Division Jagirdar, including all Jagirdars of Gird, Bhind, Morena, Sheopur, Shivpuri and Guna districts.
3. Towns of Gird, Bhind and Morena districts.	4. Bhandar Tahsil.	4. Northern Division Jagirdars including Jagirdar of Gird, Bhind, Morena, Sheopur, Shivpuri and Guna districts.			

The system of bi-cameral legislature continued until April 1948, when following the formation of an interim responsible Government in January of that year, the Raj Sabha was abolished and the Praja Sabha functioned as a uni-cameral legislature with some change in its composition. Under this arrangement, it consisted of 90 members, of whom, 75 were the elected members of previous two houses, and the other 15 were co-opted for representing Muslims, backward classes, women and labour.

After the formation of Madhya Bharat, an interim Legislative Assembly consisting of 75 members was constituted, among whom 40 members were elected by the Gwalior Praja Sabha in accordance with the system of Proportional Representation by means of the single transferable vote. This position continued until the general elections of 1952 when, following the division of the State into territorial constituencies, the district was split up into five constituencies (including one double-member constituency), from which six members were chosen by direct election to the Madhya Bharat Legislative Assembly. There was no change in this position in the elections of 1957 except that the areas of the constituencies were slightly readjusted. The names, extent etc.,



of these constituencies during the elections of 1952 and 1957 are given in the table below:—

1952				1957			
Name of constituency	Extent of constituency	Total number of seats	Seats reserved for scheduled castes	Name of constituency	Extent of constituency	Total number of seats	Seats reserved for scheduled castes
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1. Ghatigaon.	Ghatigaon and Gird Tahsils (excluding the specified villages).	1	..	1. Pichhore	Pichhore and Bhandar Tahsils.	2	
				2. Gird ..	Gird Tahsil (excluding Greater Gwalior.)	1	
2. Lashkar	Municipality .. Halka Nos. 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 and Kampoo Brigade area.	1	..	3. Lashkar	Corporation Halka Nos. 6 to 18 and Kota area of Greater Gwalior.	1	—
3. Gwalior	Gwalior Municipality area, Lashkar municipal Halka Nos. 1, 2 and 4 Phool bag, Jai Arogya Hospital, Gwalior Fort and Dongerpur area of Greater Gwalior.	1	..	4. Morar	Corporation Halka Nos. 19 to 24 and 30 to 34 and Morar Cantonment area of Greater Gwalior.	1	—
4. Morar	Greater Gwalior (excluding Lashkar and Gwalior Municipal area, Jai Arogya Hospital, Kampoo Bridgade, Phool bag, Gwalior Fort and Dongerpur area) and specified villages of Gird Tahsil.	1	..	5. Gwalior	Corporation Halka Nos. to 5 and 25 to 29 and Dairy Farm area of Greater Gwalior.	1	—
5. Pichhore-Bhandar.	Pichhore and Bhandar Tahsils.	2	1				
Total	..	6	1	Total	..	6	1

Following the recent splitting up of all double-member constituencies in the country by the Election Commission, the double-member constituency of



## GWALIOR

Pichhore has been abolished and replaced by two single-member constituencies, one comprising the Pichhore tahsil excluding a few patwari circles and the other comprising the Bhandar tahsil plus the excluded patwari circles of the Pichhore tahsil. The latter is a reserved seat for Scheduled Castes. So much about the representation of the district in the State Legislature.

The Gwalior State was represented in the Central Legislature for the first time in 1947, when four persons were chosen to represent the State in the Constituent Assembly. Of these, three were elected by the non-official members of the Praja Sabha and Raj Sabha, while the fourth was nominated by the Ruler. Later, after the formation of Madhya Bharat three members were elected to represent the Union in Constituent Assembly. This position continued until the general elections of 1952 when the State of Madhya Bharat was divided into territorial constituencies for purposes of elections to the Lok Sabha (House of the People). Under this arrangement, the Gwalior district was covered by two constituencies, viz., Gwalior and Morena-Bhind. The former comprised the areas of Greater Gwalior, Gird and Ghatigoan tahsils and the Shivpuri district (excluding the Pohri tahsil), while the latter was composed of the Pichhore and Bhandar tahsils, Morena and Bind districts and the Pohri tahsil of the Shivpuri district. Three members were elected from these constituencies, one from the Gwalior constituency and two from the other constituency, one of them being a member of the Scheduled Castes. This position underwent a change in 1957 when following the recommendations of the Delimitation Commission, only a double member constituency for Gwalior was retained. Its area comprised the entire districts of Gwalior and Bind and the district of Morena excluding the tahsil of Sheopur, Bijaypur and Sabalgarh and patwari circle nos. 25 to 33 and 66 to 72 in the Jaura tahsil. This constituency has recently been abolished and instead two single member constituencies have been created, one comprising the Gwalior district and a part of the Bind District, and the other comprising the remaining portion of Bind district and a part of the Morena district. The latter is a reserved seat for Scheduled Castes.

## POLITICAL PARTIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

Organised political parties as we understand them now are of comparatively recent growth in the district and could be said to have existed in an incipient form in the thirties. Earlier in the century, in the first decade, there were, however, a few groups of persons who formed themselves into various secret societies with the ostensible object of rousing the political consciousness of the people. Two such societies came into existence at Gwalior in 1907, one called the Nava Bharat and the other the Abhinava Bharat. Their immediate political objective was to replace the rule of the Maharaja by a republican form of Government. The Abhinava Bharat appeared to have certain political affiliation with a similar society at Nasik which was led by Shri V. D. Savarkar. The members of the two societies at Gwalior were mainly youths, and they did propaganda among students preaching *Swadeshi* and also indulged in certain experiments in the making of crude bombs. These activities soon came to the notice of the Gwalior Government and 38 persons



from both the societies were arrested and prosecuted for sedition. After the trial by a Special Tribunal in August 1909, most of these persons were sentenced to various degrees of punishment ranging from transportation for life to rigorous imprisonment for three months. This trial was followed by firm action by the Gwalior Government to put down all manner of political activity in the State with the result that until about 1930 political life in the district may be said to have been non-existent.

A curious episode in 1929 related to the attempt by some members, of what was known as the Hindustan Socialist Republic Army led by Chandra-shekhar Azad, to seek support to their cause in Gwalior and refuge for some of their men fleeing from the long arm of law which pursued them, following the assassination of Assistant Superintendent of Police of Lahore. The men were, however, arrested and sentenced, and this society made little headway in Gwalior.

By about 1930, the Civil Disobedience Movement was launched in all parts of what was known as British India. The Working Committee of the Indian National Congress which met at Allahabad in June 1930, called upon all people in general, and the organizations under the Congress in particular, to bring about a complete boycott of British goods. The country-wide movement had its repercussions in Gwalior. In response to the call of the Indian National Congress certain associations were formed at Gwalior such as the Swadeshi Vastu Pracharak Mandal, the Videshi Bahishkar Mandal, the Khadi Prachar Samiti, etc. They held public meetings, lit bonfires of foreign cloth and carried out propaganda. The Gwalior State Government, however, came down on these activities with a heavy hand and promulgated an Ordinance in October 1930, banning all political activities.

Meanwhile the All India States Peoples' Conference had been organised in the country, with the sympathy and under the implicit guidance of the Indian National Congress. The chief aim of this conference was to win responsible Government for the people of the Indian States through representative institutions. A movement for achieving this object was, however, to be initiated by the people of the States themselves, by creating suitable organizations and drawing up their own programmes. It was against this background that some political workers of the Central India region met at Khandwa in 1932 and formed a body known as the Madhya Bharat Deshi Rajya Lok Parishad which was intended to represent the people of the various Princely States in Central India, Bundelkhand and Baghelkhand. This Parishad participated in the meetings of the All India States People's Conference.

As a part of this concerted move to establish political organization of the States' people in the different Princely States, some political workers of Gwalior approached the Gwalior State Government with an application for registering a party to be called Gwalior Rajya Praja Mandal, but the Government was in no mood to countenance such a move. The application was rejected. Thereupon the sponsors of this scheme decided to join the Sarvajanik Sabha of



Ujjain which had been functioning as a registered society in the sphere of cultural and social activities since 1917. But now with the accession of members actively engaged in political work, the Sabha progressively became the chief political party in Gwalior State. The Sabha was strengthened by organising branches at the district and tahsil level in the State, and the first plenary session met in November 1938 when its constitution was amended so as to make it an All State Movement with the object of attaining full responsible Government within a period of five years. From now onwards the Sabha became the main political party in Gwalior, and the spear-head of the peoples' movement for political reform.

To meet the growing pressure of the demand for political reform, the Gwalior Government made a declaration on the 14th June 1939, announcing certain constitutional reforms, the nature and extent of which have been described in an earlier chapter. The Working Committee of the Sarvajanik Sabha met soon after the Government made the declaration and decided to non-cooperate with Government in the proposed constitutional reforms. At the second session of the Sabha held at Lashkar in November 1939, they adopted a resolution to boycott both the reforms and the Franchise Committee that had been set up. They further decided to revise the Sabha constitution so as to bring it in line with the Indian National Congress.

Meanwhile, on the one hand the implementation of the reforms proposed by Government got delayed, partly because of the out-break of the World War, and on the other the demand of the Sabha for full responsible Government became more insistent. At a meeting held at Vidisha in August 1942 the Central Committee of the Sabha reiterated the demand for responsible Government and resolved that if the demand was not met by the 30th August they would commence a non-violent mass agitation. The Gwalior Government met this with large scale arrests of the leaders of the Sabha. A settlement was, however, arrived at between the Sabha and the Government by the end of June 1943, and the arrested leaders were released.

When ultimately the elections to the Praja Sabha and Raj Sabha under the reforms announced by the Government took place in 1946, the Sarvajanik Sabha won all the three urban seats to the Praja Sabha from Gwalior district, and also won three out of the four rural seats from the district. The Sabha also won both the urban seats for the Raj Sabha, but did not contest the rural seat for this house. The Sabha had thus become an effective political party, having a decisive voice in the constitutional affairs in the State.

At the sixth session of the Sabha held at Shivpuri in March 1946 they decided to change the name of the party to Gwalior State Congress and get formally affiliated to the All India States People's Conference. Following this, the next annual session of the All India States People's Conference was held at Gwalior in April 1947, and was attended, among others, by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. This, incidentally, provided an opportunity to the Ruler to discuss with Pandit Nehru some of the problems facing the State.



Events began to move rapidly in 1947 and culminated in the achievement of India's independence in August that year. The Princely States could no longer resist the tide of events, and the Ruler revised the composition of the Praja Sabha, including in it all the elected members of the old bi-cameral legislature, and 15 others co-opted by the elected members. The State Congress which had a majority in the legislature was invited by the Ruler to form an interim Government consisting of nine elected Ministers with a Chief Minister, and two Ministers nominated by the Ruler. A proclamation was issued on 20th January 1948 announcing the establishment of responsible Government, and the new Ministers were sworn in on the 24th January 1948.

When the Union of Madhya Bharat was formed, a majority in the new legislature of Madhya Bharat was from the State Congress party. Thereafter the former Gwalior State Congress ceased to be a separate body, and merged in the Indian National Congress, with a party set-up at the provincial and district levels, as in the rest of India.

In the elections of 1951-52 the Congress party contested all the six seats for the Legislative Assembly from Gwalior district and captured four seats. The party won two out of the total of three seats for the Lok Sabha. In the general elections of 1957 the party improved upon its previous result by capturing five out of the six seats for the Legislative Assembly, and both the seats for the Lok Sabha. In the elections of 1962, the Congress party captured five out of the six seats for the Legislative Assembly and the only seat for the Lok Sabha. It lost the seat of Dabra constituency.

### Hindu Mahasabha

Though a branch of Hindu Sabha existed as early as in 1931, it soon became defunct, and it was only in 1938 that the Sabha was revived following the visit of Shri V. D. Savarkar to Gwalior. The party organised physical training for its members in a quasi-military fashion, and in regard to political issues generally took up a position opposed to any compromise for bringing about communal unity. It was not till the elections of 1951-52 that the Hindu Sabha, which had by then become a part of the All India Hindu Mahasabha, worse in the general elections of 1957 in which, though it contested all the six seats for the State Assembly and both the seats for Lok Sabha, they did not emerged actively in politics in the district. The party was able to win two seats for the State Assembly and both the seats for Lok Sabha, they did not win any one of these seats. A similar fate befell the party in the elections of 1962, also when it contested five seats out of six for the Legislative Assembly, and one seat for the Lok Sabha, but failed to win any of these seats.

Apart from the Hindu Mahasabha, two other parties of local importance deserve mention. One was the Rajput Sewa Sangh which was formed in 1939, and took part in the elections of 1945, winning one seat. But when the Government declared this party alongwith other communal organizations unlawful in 1948, the party ceased to exist and was not revived. The other party was the



Praja Hitkari Mandal which was formed in 1942, and contested the State elections of 1945, in which it won a seat for the Praja Sabha from Bhandar. The party has ceased to exist.

### **Anjuman-i-Islam**

The Anjuman-i-Islam which was originally formed in 1902 to promote the interests of the Muslim Community, began to take interest in politics from about 1939 and it held meetings at Lashkar in February 1940 and agitated for 33 per cent representation in services and local bodies and wanted Urdu in Hindi script to be adopted in courts, offices and the country. It also demanded a separate electorate for the Muslims. Thereafter, it became identified with the Muslim League.

### **Muslim League**

In order to start a branch of the Muslim League at Lashkar, secret meetings of the Muslims of Lashkar were held on 23rd and 25th April 1939. A branch of the Muslim League was also established at Gwalior. But the League as a separate entity, could not make any headway. Ultimately, in the month of February 1948, Gwalior Government declared Muslim League, the Khaksars and the Muslim National Guards as unlawful organizations, along with other similar communal organizations.

### **Communist Party of India**

As early as on 21st January 1943, the Communist Party was in existence at Lashkar. The party was reorganised as a branch of the Communist Party of India after the session of Sarvajanik Sabha at Shivpuri in 1946, with the addition of some dissentient members who had left the Sarvajanik Sabha. Its strength was mainly in industrial areas and among the peasant class. As a branch of National Party it set up two candidates for Legislative Assembly out of six seats and two candidates for the Lok Sabha out of three seats in the elections of 1951-52. But it failed to win any seat. In the elections of 1957 it captured one seat of the Legislative Assembly. The party did not contest the election to the Lok Sabha. The Communist Party set up three candidates for Legislative Assembly out of six seats but it failed to win any seat in the elections of 1962. The party did not contest the elections to the Lok Sabha.

### **Socialist Party**

The Socialist Party had previously worked with the Congress Party, but after 1948, it set up separate party units in this area. As a branch of the All India Socialist Party, it set up five candidates for the Legislative Assembly out of six seats and two candidates for the Lok Sabha out of three seats in the elections of 1951-52. But it failed to capture even a single seat. After the election, it joined the P.S.P. (Praja Socialist Party) alongwith the K.M.P.F. (Kisan Mazdoor Praja Party), but again became an independent party in 1956. It kept itself aloof from the elections of 1957, but has been recently active again in politics. In the elections of 1962, the Socialist Party set up four candidates for Legislative



Assembly out of the six seats and one candidate against the only seat in the district for the Lok Sabha. But it failed to capture any of these seats.

### **Kisan Mazdoor Praja Party**

This party had then recently come into existence and contested two seats out of six for the Legislative Assembly and one seat out of three for the Lok Sabha in the general elections of 1951-52. But it did not win a seat. Soon after the elections it merged in Praja Socialist Party alongwith Socialist Party.

### **Bharatiya Jan Sangh**

A branch of this all-India political party was established in the district just after its inauguration was announced at the end of October 1951, at a convention in New Delhi. It has its Mandal Samitis at Gwalior, Lashkar, Morar and Dabra. In the elections of 1951-52, it set up one candidate for the Legislative Assembly out of six seats in the district, but lost it. The party took an active part in Jammu-Kashmir Movement and sent about 100 volunteers to Jammu for *Satyagraha* in 1953. In the elections of 1957, it contested two seats of Legislative Assembly out of six, and both the seats of the Lok Sabha in the district, but again it could not win a seat either in the State or in the Union Legislature.

In the elections of 1962, the Bharatiya Jan Sangh, set up four candidates for Legislative Assembly and one candidate for the only seat in the district for the Lok Sabha. But it lost all these seats.

### **Praja Socialist Party**

A branch of Praja Socialist Party was established in the district after first general elections by the merger of the Socialist Party and the Kisan Mazdoor Praja Party in 1952. In the elections of 1957, it contested three seats out of the six for the Legislative Assembly and both the seats for Lok Sabha, but it could not capture any seat. For the Legislative Assembly, the Congress Party and Hindu Mahasabha, both polled more votes than the Praja Socialist Party while in the elections to the Parliament only the Congress Party got more votes than Praja Socialist Party. The Praja Socialist Party contested all the six seats in the district for Legislative Assembly in the general elections of 1962. But it could not capture any seat.

### **Swatantra Party**

A branch of this party, was recently established in the district and it set up four candidates for the Legislative Assembly in the general elections of 1962, but it failed to capture even a single seat out of these.



## NEWSPAPERS

**The Progress of Journalism**

Due to the initiative of His Highness Maharaja Jayaji Rao Sindhia a weekly *Akhbar Gwalior* was started in 1851, printed in litho, under the direct patronage of Government. It was devoted exclusively to the news of the State. After seven days, the paper was renamed the *Gwalior Gazette* which remained unchanged and continued without a competitor until 31st December, 1904. It was at first published in Hindi and Urdu, but later exclusively in Urdu till 1904.<sup>1</sup> Early in January, 1905, the *Gwalior Gazette* was divided into two journals, one being named the *Gwalior State Gazette* and the other the *Jayaji Pratap*. The former was in both Hindi and English, while the latter being of a literary nature was in Hindi, and had one English edition as well.

Later, in September 1910, two commercial monthlies, one in Hindi and another in English, called the *Gwalior Vyapar Samachar* and the *Gwalior Commercial Journal* respectively, were also brought out by the Government. Both these periodicals, however, ceased publication on 1st July 1912, and were absorbed in the *Jayaji Pratap* which later became a daily.

Thus, during the first decade of the 20th century there were in all four newspapers published by the Government. Non-official journalism was absent in Gwalior, though two distinguished writers of Gwalior, Ganesh Shankar Vidyarthi and Madhav Sidhnath Agarkar, migrated from Gwalior, and the former started in the year 1910, a weekly Hindi paper *Pratap* from Kanpur, while Agarkar started the *Swarajya* from Khandwa.

Partly due to Standing Durbar Orders prescribing certain restrictions on the starting of journals, and partly because of limited reading public, the growth of journalism in the district was not very conspicuous. In 1921 *Samaya*, a Hindi monthly with a fortnightly edition was sponsored by Shri Shyamlal Pandviya, but later this paper was printed and published from Jhansi in Uttar Pradesh. Another weekly *Jiwan* was started in 1940, by Shri Jagannath Prasad Milind.

During this early period, newspapers did not seem to have come in conflict with Government. Journalism generally concerned itself with literary, social and religious subjects. But the Proclamation of 14th June 1939, regarding constitutional reforms, followed by the announcement of 30th September, 1941, stimulated journalism of a more topical nature. In July 1941, a monthly, *Gwalior Law Reporter* made its appearance. Shri Ramachandra Moreswar Karkarey was its editor and publisher. Then came into existence a weekly *Praja Pukar*, while *Naya Hind*, daily, which had been started from Ujjain, was shifted to Gwalior in 1946, and continued up to 1950. *Nava Prabhat*, a Hindi daily, owned by the Hindustan Journals Ltd., came into existence in 1948.

<sup>1</sup> *Gwalior State Gazetteer*, p. 121.



A religious and philosophical monthly *Maruti Sanjivan* was started in 1949, followed by *Prakriti*, a monthly devoted to Naturopathy, in 1950. The *Madhya Bharat Prakash*, a Hindi daily, made its appearance and the *Jayaji Pratap* was converted into *Madhya Bharat Sandesh* during the same year.

In recent times there has been a striking growth of journals in the district. As regards dailies, *Hamari Awaz* and *Bharat Bhoomi* in 1952; *Mashal* in 1953; *Madhya Pradesh Samachar* and *Madhya Pradesh* in 1956; *Rajhans* and *Madhya Pradesh Times* in 1959 and *Jan Pravah*, *Sandhyakalin Gwalior Samachar* and *Karmath* in 1960, made their appearance. Out of these *Mashal*, *Madhya Pradesh Samachar* and *Madhya Pradesh* soon ceased publication.

### Weeklies

Two weeklies, viz. *Law Weekly Notes* in English and *Mangal Prabhat* in Hindi were started in 1952 and 1953 respectively. The year 1956 witnessed the publication of five weeklies. *Gram Sudhar*, a Hindi weekly, published by the former Indore State since 1946, started as a Government publication from Gwalior. It served as a useful medium for rural uplift and social welfare. *Madhya Bharat Sandesh* was re-named *Madhya Pradesh Sandesh* after November 1956. The other three weeklies of the year were, viz., *Rajput Jagat*, *Rajhans* and *Gwalior Textile News*.

On 30th June, 1961 there were 35 newspapers and periodicals in circulation published in Gwalior district. Among these, nine were dailies, seven weeklies, 18 monthlies and one quarterly. According to their linguistic classification, there were 29 Hindi, four bi-linguals, one Urdu and one English.

### Dailies

All the dailies, *Bharat Bhoomi*, *Hamari Awaz*, *Jan Pravah*, *Karmath*, *Madhya Bharat Prakash*, *Madhya Pradesh Times*, *Nava Prabhat*, *Rajhans* and *Sandhyakalin Gwalior Samachar* were published in Hindi. Out of these, the *Nava Prabhat* owned by the Hindustan Journals Ltd., was the earliest newspaper, which appeared in 1948.

### Weeklies

Three weeklies, viz., the *Cloth Dalul Market Report*, *Gwalior Textile Samachar*, the *Vyapar Samachar*, catered to the needs of business class, whereas, the *Rajput* supported Rajputs. *Gram Sudhar* which was devoted to rural uplift and *Madhya Pradesh Sandesh* were the publications of the Information and Publicity Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh. There were two more weeklies, the *Manav* and the *Yatayat Samachar*. All the weeklies were published in Hindi.

### Monthlies

The *Revenue Nirnaya*, the *Jabalpur Law Journal*, the *Madhya Pradesh Law Journal*, all the three bi-linguals (English-Hindi) and the



*Supreme Court Cases* published in English have done commendable work in the sphere of law reporting. *Pragati* was a publication of the Government of Madhya Pradesh. *Manzil* was the only periodical published in Urdu. The *Madhya Pradesh Vastu Vyapar Patrika*, *Vanijya*, *Madhya Pradesh Chamber of Commerce and Industry Patrika*, *Volunteer*, *Kori Samaj Utthan*, were devoted to particular class or sect. *Prakriti* dealt with Naturopathy and *Maruti Sanjeevan* was devoted to religion. *Khilauna* was meant for children and *Mahila Sandesh* served the cause of women. *Kisani Samachar* was a publication of the Agriculture Department of the Government of Madhya Pradesh. The other magazines published in the district were *Abha*, *Aryavarta*, *Chhatrani*, and *Narmada*.

Among the all India English newspapers the *Hindustan Times* (New Delhi), the *Times of India* (Bombay and Delhi), the *Statesman* (Delhi), the *Indian Express* (Delhi), *Free Press Journal* (Bombay) are widely read in the district. The *Hitavada* and the *Madhya Pradesh Chronicle*, published from Bhopal, are the English daily newspapers which have wide circulation in the district.

Among the all-India English newspapers the *Hindustan Times* (New Delhi), the *Vir Arjun* (Delhi)—all extra-State newspapers and the *Nav Bharat* (Bhopal) of the State have a wide Hindi reading public. Two weeklies, i.e., the *Dharam Yug* (Bombay) and the *Hindustan* (Delhi), were widely circulated. The *Sarita* (Delhi), the *Navneet* (Bombay) and the *Saraswati* (Allahabad), all monthlies, maintained a steady circulation. The Hindi monthlies, the *Ajkal*, the *Bal Bharti* and the *Yojana*, a fortnightly published by the Government of India continued to be popular among the intelligentsia of the district. *Lok Satta* (Bombay), a daily, catered to the needs of Marathi reading public.

#### VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

The voluntary organizations engaged in different spheres of Social Service in Greater Gwalior, can be divided into the following categories:—

1. Orphanages and Rescue Homes,
2. Women's Organisations,
3. Children's Organisations, and
4. Miscellaneous Organisations.

##### 1. Orphanages and Rescue Homes

**The Madhav Orphanage.**—This institution was established for the maintenance and education of orphans (both boys and girls) in commemoration of the miraculous escape of His Highness the Maharaja Madhav Rao Sindhia in a train accident on 26th October, 1907. It provides for the boarding and lodging of orphans and runs a small library and a craft school. It also has a Foundling Home.



**Anathashram, Morar.**—This was established in 1928 in order to provide shelter to orphans and educate them and try to make them good citizens. This institution also shelters destitutes and widows and other homeless women who need protection. The main sources of its income are the subscriptions, Government aid, rent receipts from its immovable property and donations. Six Ashrams in the district are run and managed by an elected Managing Committee.

**Madhav Andhashram.**—It was established in 1914, and was reorganised on modern lines in 1955. This institution has, as its aims and objects, the care of the deaf and blind. It runs a school to teach the blind according to the Braille System. Besides reading and writing, training is given in handicrafts also, such as, cane work, weaving, etc. The institution also imparts training in vocal and instrumental music. There is a boarding house attached to the institution.

The main source of its income is grant-in-aid from Government, and from other semi-Government bodies. Subscriptions and donations are also received to maintain this institution. Another source of income is through the sale of articles made by the inmates of the institution. The institution is run and managed by an elected working committee.

## 2. Women's Organisations

**J. D. Nari Udyog Shala.**—This Udyog Shala was established in 1948. It gives training in sewing and crafts to those ladies and girls who are illiterate and have no vocation of their own and enables them to earn their livelihood. It is a training-cum-teaching centre in sewing and craft.

The main source of income of this institution is the fees collected from students and donations. Approximately 300 ladies and girls are annually benefitted by the Udyog Shala.

**Gwalior Mahila Mandal.**—It was established in 1930 in Morar, as a branch of the All-India Women's Conference. It organises many-sided activities and is supported by persons of all castes and creeds. Three Montessori Schools for children are run under the auspices of this Mandal. A hostel for deserted and destitute women with free educational facilities, boarding and lodging has also been opened. This Mandal has also opened a primary school in a nearby village 'Ghosipura' and is carrying on the work of Women Small Savings Campaign and Family Planning. About 150 women and 350 children are annually benefited by this institution. It runs a Nari Udyog Mandal, and sponsors a scheme for providing home education for adult women.

**Kanyadharam Vardhani Sabha.**—This is one of the earliest institutions of this kind in Gwalior, established under the patronage of Madhav Rao Sindhia in 1898. It has played a great part in the sphere of female education in Gwalior. It soon gathered sufficient funds to carry on an extensive campaign for spreading education among women in the whole State. Since there was dearth of suitable text-books for girls, the Sabha undertook the work of getting



suitable text-books written by distinguished authors and published them. It had established its branches in almost all important towns in the State; but after the formation of Madhya Bharat State, the work of this Sabha was confined to Greater Gwalior. The girls were given scholarships and a hostel was also built for accommodating girls from outside Lashkar. This hostel was later handed over to the Government. This Sabha also started training schools for women, which were later on taken over by the Government.

**Shakti Vardhani Sabha:**—Founded in 1923, it has its aims and objects the progress of women and children. Its main sphere of work is in the labour area, and it also runs a primary school for children. It is affiliated to All-India Women's Conference.

### 3. Children's Organisations

There has been little organised activity for child welfare in Gwalior in the early years. But in recent times, after 1952, special attention was being given to the welfare of children.

**Balkan Ji Bari.**—This institution was established, in 1952, as a branch affiliated to the Bhartiya Balkan Ji Bari, an all-India Organisation. Children between the age of 6 and 14 are enrolled as members and they are provided with the facilities for indoor and outdoor games and other literary and cultural activities. It provides articles of gymnasium for the children. It was formally inaugurated in 1954.

**Bal Vikas Samiti:**—This is also an institution affiliated to an all-India body for child welfare—the Indian Council of Child Welfare. It was established in 1952, and conducts social, cultural and educational activities for children.

It has four branches in the shape of Bal Vikas Pathshala (pre-primary classes), Bal Vikas Harijan Pathshala, Bal Vikas Vachnalaya and Bal Vikas Vyayamshala. All these branches are located in areas where backward class people predominate with the result that Harijans are largely benefited by it.

### 4. Miscellaneous Organisations

There are certain other organizations whose activities are not confined to any particular caste or creed and have played a significant part in the movement that may be described as Indian Renaissance. The following are some, whose activities find place in Gwalior district.

**Arya Samaj:**—Founded in 1882, it is affiliated to the all-India body of Sarvadeshik Arya Pratinidhi Sabha. As elsewhere, this organisation was active in Gwalior, carrying on a campaign against social evils—early marriage, untouchability etc.—and preached widow-marriage, encouraged education of women. Orphanages were also opened by this institution, besides opening of educational institutions. It has its branches in Lashkar, Gwalior and Morar



and runs among other institutions, the Anathashram, Morar, Dayanand Arya Vidyalaya and Arya Pathshala.

**Boy Scouts and Girls Guides.**—The Scout Movement and Girls Guides Movement was started in Gwalior in 1925. This movement has recently been replaced to a large extent by the National Cadet Corps in the educational institutions as a system of training and discipline. The Movement is being financed by the State Government besides its income from registration fee, affiliation fee and interest and donations. The annual income of Gwalior branch comes to more than Rs. 10,000 and it has a membership of 1,098 of which 428 are boys, 286 girls and 384 children.

**Maharudra Mandal.**—It was founded in 1905 and has a long and admirable record of social service. Its aims and objects are educational, social and economic development of the society through various means.

The Mandal runs one higher secondary school, one primary school and one Music Vidyalaya (both vocal and instrumental). It also runs a public reading room, and organisation of games, tournaments, exhibitions and cultural activities, and celebration of national days and birthdays of national leaders are also included in its programme.

**Achyutanand Bal Samvardhan Mandal (Achyutanand Vyayamshala).**—This vyayamshala was established in the year 1860. It was established with the aim of popularising and imparting training in physical and recreational activities amongst men and women. There are 111 men and 45 women as its members, besides about 100 subscribing members.

Originally started as the *akhada* of a well known exponent of *Yoga*, Achyutanand Swami, it was later registered in 1942 and its management was taken over by a Managing Committee. Since its inception, this vyayamshala has been doing good work among the youths as well as children, irrespective of caste or creed, in imparting physical training and affording facilities for recreation without any fees. It has maintained a gymnasium hall, an *akhada*, a swimming pool, etc.

**Bhoodan Yagna Parishad.**—With the aim of creating a feeling of fellowship in the society as a whole, maximum utilisation of human labour through co-operative and voluntary efforts, just distribution of land, provision of land to the landless and for encouraging community village life, Bhoodan Yagna Parishad was established in Gwalior in July 1955, under the Bhoodan Act of 1955. It has a Board consisting of 11 members who manage its work.

**Madhya Pradesh Jatav Sabha.**—It is a non-political organisation established in 1932 under the name of Madhya Bharat Jatav Sabha. After the merger of Madhya Bharat into Madhya Pradesh in 1956, the name of the organisation was changed to Madhya Pradesh Jatav Sabha. This organisation aims at improving the lot of Harijans and backward classes economically, culturally, educationally and socially. It has a membership of about 10,000 out of which 9,000



are males and 1,000 females. This organisation has two *Pracharaks* in its employment who move about in the district propagating its aims and objects and helping the Harijans, wherever required. There is also an organisation of Jatavs known as 'Madhya Pradesh Jatav Vir Dal', affiliated to it, which organises the Jatav youths and works for the uplift of the scheduled caste persons. It arranges social and cultural programmes.

**Madhya Bharat Educational Society, Gwalior.**—Madhya Bharat Educational Society, Gwalior, was established in 1937 with its office at P. G. V. Inter College, Lashkar, Gwalior. The object of this society is to impart education by starting and conducting educational institutions in Gwalior. It is a registered organisation and is run by a governing body. This Society is conducting the Parvati Bai Gokhale College and Madhav Mahavidyalaya. The former college was started in July 1941 while the latter in October 1957. These institutions are run by Government grant, subscriptions and public donations, besides the fees collected from the students. More than 800 students including 66 girl students, are getting their education in the Parvati Bai Gokhale College, while about 500 students are on roll of the Madhav Mahavidyalaya.

**Bharat Sewak Samaj.**—In Gwalior district, Bharat Sewak Samaj was established in the year 1955. At Gwalior there are regional, district and town offices, and the organisation exists at tahsil level also. It has been organising annual camps from 1955 onwards. The number of camps that have been run up to February 1962, was 23 in which 1,150 persons participated. During camp period every member gives *shramdan* towards construction of school buildings, roads, soak-pits, compost pits, village sanitation, etc. Besides, emphasis is also laid on social welfare activities. The *shramdan* work which has been continuing at Golharghati for the last three years deserves special mention. When the work is completed the villages of that area will be directly linked with the Agra-Bombay Road and thus the distance to Gwalior will also be reduced by 30 miles.

**Association for Moral and Social Hygiene.**—A fullfledged branch of the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene in India has been functioning at Gwalior. The aims and objects of the Association are to encourage and establish the highest standards of morality and family life; to uphold a high moral standard for men and women in matters relating to sex behaviour; to eradicate commercialised vice in all its forms; to promote education for family life; to combat venereal diseases and the conditions which promote them and to educate public opinion for creating proper social hygienic conditions. As regards its activities, the branch has been engaged mainly in the rescue and rehabilitation work. A Vigilance Committee is also working under it. Due to the efforts made by the workers of the Association, girls of the Beria community are now taking to settled married life. The Association also publishes literature, pictorial exhibits and other material for educating public opinion.



## CHAPTER XVII

### PLACES OF INTEREST

#### **Amrol**

Amrol ( $26^{\circ} 1' N.$ ;  $78^{\circ} 11' E.$ , Tahsil Pichhore), a small village about eight miles to the south-west of Antri by cart track, has architectural remnants dating back to 8th-9th century A.D. It is also reached by a longer but better route via Harsi canal bank road which branches off from the Gwalior-Jhansi road near Tekanpur. Close to Amrol are located three groups of dilapidated temples. The largest group, about six furlongs to the north-west of the village, consists of two mounds which probably mark the site of a temple now extinct. To the north of one of the two mounds stands the temple of Rameshvar Mahadeva. This temple is in a good condition but a part of the *Shikhar* appears to have been lost, and it was replaced by a brick-built dome in later times. The temple is apparently ancient, and could be assigned to early medieval period on architectural grounds. The other mound is called Ganesh Pahadi from an idol of Ganesh  $2\frac{1}{4}$  feet  $\times$   $3\frac{1}{4}$  feet lying on it. The site is strewn with fragments of stone sculptures.

About a quarter of a mile to the south-east of Amrol is situated another Hindu temple known as Dane-Baba-Ki-Marhi. The third group of monuments consists of a shrine sheltering a large idol of a goddess locally called Behmata. Judging from the scattered remains of Jain images in the neighbourhood, it was probably built on the site of a large Jain temple of medieval age.

The area of the village according to the 1951 census is 3,144 acres; its population 1386, consisting of 715 males and 671 females. It has a Post and Telegraph Office, a Primary School, a Middle School and an Ayurvedic Dispensary.

#### **Antri**

Antri ( $26^{\circ} 3' N.$ ;  $78^{\circ} 15' E.$ ; Tahsil Pichhore; Station on Central Railway) is reached by a road which branches off the Gwalior-Jhansi Road at Makoda, about three miles from Antri. There is a Dak Bungalow at Makoda at mile No. 17. The town was originally called Antkapuri (signifying a village lying at the foot of a mountain) owing to its situation below the Gajne hill between Gwalior and Narwar, and is said to have been populated about 1,500 years ago. It contains two large sized tanks and a temple dedicated to Turka Golki Mata. On the hill in the vicinity of a cave is the *dargah* marking the spot where Abul-Fazl is said to have been murdered by Birsingh Deo of Orchha in August, 1602 A. D. at the instigation of Salim, the eldest son of Akbar.

The area of the town according to 1951 census is 5,439 acres; its population 4,056, consisting of 2,057 males and 1,999 females. It has a Post and Telegraph Office, a Police Station, a Civil Dispensary, a Family Planning Centre, a Primary and a Middle School and a Branch library. The Gram Sewak and Gram Sevika Training Centres and Village Pottery Centres are located here. A weekly *hat* meets on every Sunday.

#### **Barai**

Barai ( $26^{\circ} 7' N.$ ;  $78^{\circ} 3' E.$ , Tahsil Gird. Station on Central Railway), a small town about three miles from Panniar, has two groups of ruined Jain temples.



In the north of the village stands a group of two temples, one sheltering a colossal image of a Jina while the other is made of three closely built shrines containing smaller images. The other group, situated on the hill to the south of village, consists of four shrines standing in a line and shelters big stone idols of Jain Tirthankara. On the pedestal of one of these images is an inscription dated V. S. 1529 (A. D. 1472) which refers to Maharaja Kirti Singh Tomara of Gwalior. Numerous sati stones with crude carvings are seen scattered about the place. There is an old theatre known as Ras-Lilaghar with traces of ruined rooms built round a circular open ground lined at intervals with lamp posts surmounted with small cupolas, resembling in style the cupolas of Man Mandir in Gwalior Fort.

The area of the town, according to 1951 Census, is 13,111 acres; its population of 3,533 comprises 1,831 males and 1,702 females. It has a Post and Telegraph Office, a Primary School, a Middle School and an Ayurvedic Dispensary.

#### Behat

Behat ( $26^{\circ} 11' N$ ;  $78^{\circ} 35' E$ , Tahsil Gird) is believed to be the birth-place of Tansen, "the Orpheus of India", and his seat is shown on a platform near two temples, one dedicated to Shiva and the other to Hanuman. At this spot, the legend says Tansen did penance before Shiva and prayed for the removal of the defect in his speech. The story goes that God bestowed on him the gift of music and it is said that so irresistible was his music that the temple swayed to his song, and consequently its walls are said to have inclined at an angle.

The village appears to have been a place of importance in the time of the Jat Ranas of Gohad who made it their headquarters in 17th—18th century A.D. There are remains of a *garhi* in the heart of the village. Towards south-west of village, standing on a hill, is a well-preserved building known as Rana's *Baithak* which has some architectural pretensions.

According to the Census of 1951 the area of the village is 3,829 acres and its population is 1,501, which consists of 811 males and 690 females. It has a Post and Telegraph Office, a Primary and a Middle School, a Police Station and an Ayurvedic Dispensary.

#### Bhander

Bhander ( $25^{\circ} 44' N$ ;  $78^{\circ} 45' E$ , Dakbungalow on Bhander Chirgaon road Tahsil Bhander), situated on a metalled road which connects it with the nearest railway station Chirgaon on Central Railway, is a municipal town and the headquarters of the tahsil of the same name. The town is picturesquely set between the Pahuj river and a large lake formed by damming one of its tributaries. The site is evidently an old one, but the ancient city, it is said, had been swallowed up in an earthquake. Tradition states that the early name of the town was Bhandakapura and was the habitation of king Yavanashva mentioned in the *Mahabharat*. On the extensive hill lying between the Pahuj and the town are signs of former habitation including foundations, tanks, wells and a mosque built of temple remains. The town belonged



to the Malwa Sultans in the 15th century. In Akbar's time it was the headquarters of a *Mahal* in the *Sarkar* of Irij in the *Subah* of Agra. In the rebellion of Raja Jhujhar Singh of Orchha (1634 A.D.) the Imperial armies assembled at this place before advancing on Orchha. In the 17th century it was included in Orchha. It fell to Sindhia in 1748 and was in 1848 included in territory assigned for the upkeep of the Gwalior Contingent. In 1860 it was included in the land ceded in full sovereignty. It was restored to Sindhia in 1886 in the exchange of Morar and Jhansi.

There is a big tank called Son Bhadra or Son Tallaiya on the top of the hill which is about 300 feet high. The Son Tallaiya, so the legend goes, marks the spot where Raja Bhoj Nath and Yudhisthira performed Horse sacrifice and the tank was formed where the hoofs of a *Shyamkaran* horse stamped the ground.

Near it stands the temple of Laxman Bala which has recently been repaired. The managing committee of the temple arranges annually a fair at Son Tallaiya on *Bhadovadi Ekadashi*. About one and a half miles from Bhandar town at Ramgarh there is a temple of Mahakali Devi which was constructed by a ruler of Datia for the satisfaction of his religious urge. A fair is held on *Vaisakh Krishna Ashtami* and *Navmi* when a procession is taken out by devotees carrying red flags and singing devotional songs. There are also a few relics of a Muslim saint, called Baba Kapur of Gwalior, who was credited with miraculous powers. The saint is said to have originally lived at Bhandar where his descendants still continue to live. After having lived here for fifty years Baba Kapur left for Gwalior where his tomb is held in veneration.

The area of the town, according to 1951 Census, was 411 acres; its population 4,767, consisting of 2,435 males and 2,332 females. It has a Post and Telegraph Office, a Police Station, a Civil Hospital, a Maternity Home and one Higher Secondary School. It has also a grain *mandi* and considerable trade in wheat, *jowar* and grain is carried on. The important small scale industries are pottery, fire works, handloom weaving, dyeing, printing and bamboo basket-making. A Government Handloom Centre is also located here.

### **Bhitarwar**

Bhitarwar (25° 48' N; 78° 9' E., Tahsil Pichhore) is situated on the river Parbati, 19 miles west of Dabra station on a fair-weather road. Its foundation dates back to some 250 years, when the village was colonised by Kirars who still abound in the locality. The part of the village between the river Parbati and the hills is considered as *Bhitar* (inner part) while the part on the other side of the hill is regarded as *Bahar* (outer part). The fort of Bhitarwar stands picturesquely on the northern part of the hill, overlooking the river Parbati. It is said to have been built by Bhairaj Shah, a Jat chief, some time in 17th-18th Century A. D. Tieffenthaler mentions the fort as built of stone. It consists of three separate enclosures, built in a line at different levels. The southern enclosure, which abuts on the river, has a step-well fed with water from the river by means of a channel-cut through a rock. The



central enclosure contains a few residential buildings which are now in total ruins. The northern enclosure, situated on the highest level, has suffered most in wars. On the other side of the same hill stands another fort called Lachhamangarh. Smaller in dimension, it was probably built by the same Jat chief who built the Bhitwar fort. At the southern extremity of the fort is a bathing ghat with a two-storeyed pavilion.

The area of the village according to 1951 Census is 3,077 acres; its population 1,678, consisting of 924 males and 754 females. There is a Police Station, a Post and Telegraph Office and a Co-operative Bank. The offices of the Block Development Officer and Sugarcane Inspector are located here. Medical facilities include a Family Planning Centre, an Ayurvedic Dispensary and a Public Health Centre. It has also Primary and Middle Schools and a branch Library. A weekly *hat* on Monday and a religious fair meet here during the month of January for fifteen days.

#### **Chet.**

Chet ( $25^{\circ} 57' N$ ;  $78^{\circ} 4' E$ , Tahsil Gird) a small village about five miles north of Karhaiya on the Bhitwar-Harsi road, has remnants of Jain temples of about 11th-12th Century. Outside the village and on the slope of a hill there is a Jain shrine on a raised platform. The structure crowned with a *Shikhar* of Indo-Aryan style is well preserved while the *Sabhamandapa* shows later repairs. The door frame bears carvings which compare well with those of Sasbahu temple at Gwalior Fort. The enshrined idol is a large sculpture of Shantinath, a little more than 10 feet high, but slightly damaged on hands and face. Higher up on the hill are ruins of a group of shrines, three of them in a row facing east while the rest face north. The memorial pillars lying loose have inscriptions bearing dates. One of them dated V. S. 1183 mentions names of Jain preceptors and their disciples while another records the installation of a Jain image by Vrishabha Sen. Down below the hill stands an isolated group of two large idols of Jain Tirthankars about double the height of a man. Both of them are half buried in earth and a correct identification is not possible as the distinctive marks are now obliterated.

The area of the village according to the 1951 Census is 3,119 acres; its population 83, consisting of 42 males and 41 females.

#### **Dabra**

Dabra ( $25^{\circ} 54' N$ ;  $78^{\circ} 23' E$ , Tahsil Pichhore; Station on Central Railway, Dakbungalow on Gwalior-Jhansi road), a municipal town and tahsil headquarters, is 27 miles south of Gwalior on the Gwalior-Jhansi road. It is the centre of an N. E. S. Block of the same name which consists of 167 villages with a population of 6381. The total area of the Block is 368 square miles. It is a big grain *mandi* and the volume of trade is quite large. A number of rice and bone mills and small factories are situated in the town. The Gwalior Sugar Factory is the main industrial establishment located here. It has a Post and Telegraph Office, a Police Station, two Primary Schools, two Middle Schools, one Higher Secondary School and a branch library. In addition there is one Leather Tanning Centre, an Oil Pressing Centre and a Sheet Metal and mechanised Cottage Industries Centre. Medical facilities include a Civil Hospital, a Maternity Home, and a Family Planning Centre.



**Devari**

Devari ( $25^{\circ} 50' N.$   $78^{\circ} 20' E.$ , Tahsil Pichhore), a small village situated about three miles from Chitauli on the Mastura canal has some remarkable stone sculptures and carvings whose dates range from 10th to 12th Century A. D. The subjects depicted are gods and goddesses of the Hindu pantheon. The area of the village, according to 1951 Census is 1677 acres. A Government Primary School and a branch Post Office is situated here.

**Deokho**

Deokho ( $26^{\circ} 10' N.$   $78^{\circ} 2' E.$ , Tahsil Gird), is about 10 miles from Gwalior on Lashkar-Tigra road. It is a well known Shikar resort abounding in partridges, hare and other game and even tiger is not unknown. There is a temple on the extreme summit of the hill which is surrounded by forests on all sides.

**Dundapura**

Dundapura ( $26^{\circ} 20' N.$   $77^{\circ} 0' E.$ , Tahsil Gird), a village three miles by foot-path to the north-east of Pawa ( $26^{\circ} 10' N.$   $78^{\circ} 0' E.$ ), a game resort south-west of Lashkar, is also reached by cart track from Panniar railway station from where it is about eight miles. The place seems to be inhabited for the last 800-900 years, for there are on the banks of river at least three uninscribed memorial pillars of warriors killed in a battle, about 10th-11th Century A. D. Nearby there are ruins of a small Shiva temple of which the platform, a few carved beams, and four or five Shiva *lingas* are all that remain. There is also a ruined Jain temple closeby. The idol is a seated Jaina which is now lying outside the temple and appears to belong to the 11th Century. The shrine is now lost, only the *Sabhamandapa* and porch remain with two door frames, one leading to the shrine and other to the hall. One of the pillars of this temple has a short pilgrim's record dated V. S. 1598.

A mile to the north of the village on a boulder embedded in the river bank a few shallow letters in Devanagri characters have been carved among which a date may be read as V. S. 1572.

The village appears to have been flourishing about 150 years back as testified by originally well built but now desolated houses, a big *Haveli* and a temple of Rama both built by former Rajput zamindars. It stands on the slope of a hill bordered by a dense jungle, overlooking the Sank river, the situation being very picturesque when the river is flooded during the rains. The area of the village according to the 1951 Census is 9,485 acres; its population 185 consisting of 113 males and 72 females.

**Gwalior**

Gwalior city (Area 2,810 acres; Population 2,41,577; Altitude 697 ft. above sea level; Temperature winter  $42^{\circ} F$  (Minimum)  $114^{\circ} F$  (Maximum); Average rainfall 30"; Dakbungalow and Circuit House; Railway Station), is known on account of its old historical associations, its picturesque surroundings, and its importance as a great cultural, industrial, and political centre in Madhya Pradesh. The City of Gwalior is composed of three different localities *viz.* old Gwalior, which lies to the north of hill fortress and is vivid with memorials of medieval chivalry; Lashkar, which sprung upon the south of



the Fort out of a military camp or *Lashkar* of Daulat Rao Sindhia after 1810 A. D. and Morar, lying towards east of the Fort, which was formerly a British cantonment.

Gwalior was the metropolitan town of the former Gwalior State and continued to be the winter capital of Madhya Bharat till the formation of Madhya Pradesh in 1956. It is a very important administrative centre and is the headquarters of the revenue division of Gwalior.

The important places of interest in Gwalior city may be described by taking, as the starting point, the Gwalior Railway Station. From here a mile further ahead lies the ancient town of Gwalior at the foot of the celebrated fort of the same name. Gwalior is alluded to in epigraphical records as Gopagiri, Gopadri and Gopachal Durg of which, undoubtedly, the present name is a corruption. In the 9th Century, Gwalior was a part of the Gurjara Pratihara empire and its affairs were managed by a *Kottapala*. It attracted attention of travellers on account of its situation on the main route from Deccan and is mentioned by Ibn-Battuta, who calls it 'a fine town of white hewn stone, no wood being used except in doors'. Mandelslo (1638), Terry (1655), Tavernier (1670), Tieffenthaler (1765), and others also have referred to it.

This ancient part of the city is studded with monuments and palaces that have defied the ravages of time and still stand out in all their strength and charm. The Jama Masjid, built of fine red sandstone, is an exquisite example of later Mughul style. The main building was erected in the time of Jahangir and later a new end was added by Motamid Khan, Governor of Gwalior, in 1665.

The mosque of Khandola Khan, his tomb and that of his son Naziri Khan, as well as several other tombs, are remarkable for the excellent carved stone with which they were decorated, much of the pierced screen work being of unusual beauty.

To the east of the town stands the mausoleum of Muhammad Ghaus, a very fine example of early Mughul architecture. It is built in the form of a square with hexagonal towers at its corners surmounted by small domes. The body of the building is enclosed on all sides by carved stone lattices of elaborate and delicate design, the whole being crowned by a large dome which was once inlaid with blue glazed tiles. Shaikh Muhammad Ghaus\*, whose body lies within, was a well-known Muslim saint in sixteenth century.

Close by the tomb of Muhammad Ghaus stands the more modest, but perhaps better known tomb of the great musician, Tansen. It is a rectangular, elevated platform, with a pillared gallery in the centre of which lies the tomb. The whole structure is surmounted by a carved dome. Here annually is held an *Urs* in honour of Tansen, at which renowned musicians from all parts of the country come and pay their respect to the maestro.

The fortress of Gwalior, aptly called by the author of *Taj-ul-Masir*, the 'pearl in the necklace of the castles of Hind', stands on a long and narrow rocky hill of sandstone which rises abruptly 300 ft. above the surrounding country.

\*An account of his life is given in Badauni's *Muntakhab-ut-Tawarikh*, Vol. I, pp. 445-59 and Abul Fazl's *Ain-i-Akbari*, Vol. II, p. 455.



It is a mile and three quarters long, running north to south, and varies in width from 600 ft. to 2,800 ft. east to west.

In some places the cliff overhangs and in others, where the hill sides are less precipitous, they are scarped. The walls of the fortress are 30 to 35 feet high with the rock below them steeply scarped down to a sloping glacis of crumbling basalt. As seen from the north its view is most imposing, a long line of battlements which crown the steep scarp on the east is broken only by lofty towers and fretted domes of the noble palace of Raja Man Singh. At the northern end, where the rock has been quarried for ages the jagged mass of the overhanging cliff seem ready to fall upon the city beneath them. Midway over all towers the giant form of a massive temple, grey with the moss of ages. On the western side of the hill is a deep wedge shaped gorge, called the Urwahi valley, and two winding entrances flanked by loop-holed bastions.

There is a local tradition that Gwalior fort was constructed by Suraj Sen, who was cured of his leprosy by an ascetic called Gwalipa.<sup>1</sup> This tradition has no corroborative evidence, but it certainly dates from the time of the Kachhapaghata or Kachhwaha dynasty. The first historical holders of the fort were the Huna adventurers, Toramana and his son Mihirkula, during whose rule a Sun temple was constructed. Three hundred and fifty years later, Gwalior was a part of the kingdom of Kanauj, then under the powerful Pratihara king, Mihira Bhoja, whose two inscriptions have been found in the Chaturbhuj temple.

Towards the end of the 10th century A. D. Vajradaman of the Rajput Kachhawaha dynasty captured the region from the Pratihara ruler of Kanauj. The Kachhawahas ruled over Gwalior for nearly two centuries, patronising the arts of peace and many temples in the fort and in the neighbouring countryside date from their time. The Kachhawaha rule was supplanted by another line of Pratiharas who retained it until 1232 A. D. in which year Iltutmish besieged the fort and reduced it after a prolonged struggle.

From this time onwards the Muslims continued to retain it with few short interruptions till the end of 14th century. During the confusion caused by Timur's invasion it was again seized by Tomara Rajputs, who raised Gwalior to great eminence. They ruled for more than a hundred years but it was recaptured by Ibrahim Lodi in 1516 A. D. and thereafter passed over to the Mughuls when the latter supplanted the Lodi dynasty at Delhi.

After Humayun's exile, the fort surrendered to Sher Shah whose successors made it the capital of their empire. In 1559 A. D. Gwalior was recovered for Akbar and it became the chief town of one of the *Sarkars* of the *Subah* of Agra. The *Gwalior-nama* gives the names of the Governors of the fort under Mughul emperors.

In 1755 the Marathas conquered the fort but in the confusion that followed after the battle of Panipat in 1761, it was seized by the Jat chief Lokendra Singh of Gohad. The connection of the Gwalior fort with the Sindhia family

1. See narrative in Chapter I.



dated from 1777 when the Peshwas entrusted it to Mahadji Sindhia. Sindhia held possession till 1780 when Major Popham captured the fort by surprise and handed over the fortress to Chhatrapati Singh, the Rana of Gohad. The Marathas retook the fort in 1783 under Khanderao Hari, Mahadji Sindhia's general, after a protracted struggle.

During Daulat Rao Sindhia's war with the British, in the early years of the 19th century it was again captured by General White (1804), but on this occasion the British, after occupying it for about a year, restored it to Sindhia by the Treaty of 1805. Mundy and Archer, who visited the fort in 1829 with Lord Combermere have left good descriptions of their visit, that of the former being particularly graphic. Among other things he notes that Sindhia's gunners were all Armenians.

After the battle of Maharajpur in 1844, the British forces again occupied the fortress, but in 1853 when Maharaja Jayaji Rao came of age, it was made over to Sindhia who held it till the rising of 1857 when the Maharaja fled to Agra, leaving his capital to the rebels. In the following year it was retaken by Sir Hugh Rose, and it remained in British occupation till 1886, when together with Morar cantonment it was finally restored to Sindhia in exchange for Jhansi. Since then, the fort has been uninterruptedly with the Sindhias till 1948, when the Central India States formed the Union of Madhya Bharat, which later merged into Madhya Pradesh in 1956.

The Gwalior fort contains various objects of historical and antiquarian interest. Today two roads climb up to the fort—one to the Gwalior Gate on the east and the other to the Urwahi Gate on the west. The first path is defended by five gates, placed at strategic points along its course. Originally there were two more gates but they have been removed. Of these gates, three deserve special mention. The lowest gate, built in Muhammadan style and known as the Gwalior or *Alamgiri Darwaza*, was erected in 1660 by Motamid Khan, Governor of the fort. In the time of Aurangzeb the yard into which it leads was used by the *Qazi* as a court and is still called the *Kachahari*. The gate next above it, called the Badal Mahal Gate, was built in the fifteenth century during Tomara rule and is named after Badal Singh, a brother of Kalyan Mal and uncle of the famous Raja Man Singh. It is flanked by round towers on either side and is defended by two-leaved doors. It is also known as Hindola Gate.

Bhairon Gate, which commanded the road between the Hindola and Ganesh Gates, no longer exists. The Ganesh Gate, built by Dungar Singh is a plain doorway in the Hindu style. Near it is the outwork called the Kabutar Khana or Pigeon house, containing a tank known as the Nursagar. A short way up the ascent from this gate, once stood the shrine of Gwalipa, the tutelary saint of the hill. This was pulled down by Motamid Khan, Governor of the fort in 1664, and replaced by a small mosque, as stated in an inscription. The tiny Hindu shrine which is now seen beside the mosque seems to have been erected later to commemorate the site of the original temple.

The Lakshamana Gate which also represents the Hindu style is perhaps as old as the adjoining ninth century rock sculptures. It suffered considerably



from Muslim onslaught, and was subsequently repaired during the Tomara rule and named after Lakshmana, a son of the founder of dynasty. This is evidenced by the fact that some of the stones have been reset upside down, with the *Kirtimukhas* or sculptured faces upon them inverted.

The hill on the right, as one proceeds further up, has numerous sculptures hewn in living rock, both Brahmanical and Jain. The large defaced sculpture in front of the Lakshmana Gate represents Siva in his terrific form, holding out overhead a canopy of the hide of an elephant. The group contains figures of Vishnu, Surya and goddess Mahishamardini along with a large number of Shivalingas. All the Brahmanical sculptures which are now very much worn out are attributable to 9th century A.D.

The Hathia Paur Gate concludes the series as the inner Hawa Paur has been removed. The gate is so called from the life-size stone figure of an elephant which once adorned the gate. It formed part of the eastern facade of Raja Man Singh's palace as shown by the similarity in style. This figure of elephant was noted by Ibn Battuta and Babur and apparently stood in 1610 when Finch visited the fort.

The second approach road on the west is protected by two gates, the lower of which is known as the Urwahi gate and forms part of the outer defence work constructed by Iltutmish in the 13th century. The upper gateway has no name.

The notable monuments to be seen here are the gigantic Jain sculptures carved along the rock face of the fort. Many of these bear dated inscriptions which show that they were carved during the regime of Tomara prince Dungar Singh. These sculptures, which are in five groups, represent the nude figures of some of the 24 Tirthankaras or Jains pontiffs in standing and seated postures. The largest of them, some 57 feet high, is a standing image of Adinath seen on the left about half way down the Urwahi slope. These Jain sculptures of Gwalior are unique in north India, both on account of their number and size.

The fort possesses numerous tanks, besides two rock-cut cisterns and a number of wells. Most of these tanks seem to have been originally quarries which supplied stone for the construction of the various buildings on the hill and subsequently improved to serve as reservoirs of water. The names of the principal tanks are Johar Tal, Surajkund, Mansarover, Gangola Tal, Ekkhamba Tal, Katora Tal, Rani Tal and Chedi Tal. The Johar Tal owes its name to *jauhar* or the self-immolation performed by the Rajput ladies at the time of its conquest by Iltutmish in 1232 A.D. There are two cisterns named Anar Baodi and Sarad Baodi, and a well named Assikhamba. These reservoirs provide an unfailing supply of water, a very unusual feature in Indian hill-fortresses, which have on most occasions fallen when besieged owing to the want of this essential element. Tavernier observed how these tanks contributed to the impregnability of the fortress.



There are various monuments in the fort, including six palaces, four Hindu and two Muslim. The pride of place among these is taken by Man Singh's palace, which Fergusson has described 'as the most remarkable and interesting example of Hindu palaces of an early age in India'. It is a magnificent building of two storeys above and two below ground level in the eastern part overhanging the cliff. It was in these underground dungeons that the ill-fated royal prisoners met with various ingenious forms of death. The palace is rectangular in shape about 300 feet long north to south, and 160 feet wide east to west. The vast eastern front consists of a wall of hewn sandstone rocks, relieved at the top by an ornamental frieze of coloured tiles, and at intervals along the front by massive round towers crowned with graceful domes; and connected together by a singularly beautiful balustrade of delicately fretted stonework. The southern front of somewhat similar design is more richly decorated. Here, in addition to its bold string courses and continuous blind arcade, the whole wall surface is embellished with enamelled tiles and mosaics of many hues, blue, green, gold, forming bands of conventional figures of men, elephants, tigers, peacocks and trees, and thus imparting an effect of unsurpassed charm and strength. The interior of the building, which is much more ornate, consists of two open courtyards surrounded by suites of rooms whose ceilings are worked in a variety of designs.

The palace next in order of elegance is the Gujar Mahal built by Man Singh for his favourite Queen Mrignayani who was a Gujar by caste. There is a delightful legend to the effect that Raja Man Singh was one day hunting near the village of Rai to the north-east of the fort when he encountered the lovely Mrignayani out in the field. The King at once fell in love and asked her to marry him, but she would give her consent only if the king brought the waters that flowed by her beloved village to the abode he wished her to occupy. The enamoured monarch, so it is said, built an underground channel the traces of which are still to be seen.

This two-storeyed palace of cut-stone work, 332 feet  $\times$  196 feet, has in the interior a spacious courtyard surrounded by small rooms with carved brackets and arched door openings. Its plain and massive exterior is relieved by domed turrets, a line of delightful curved brackets supporting the eaves, with a few horizontal mouldings once inlaid with enamelled tiles.

Just outside the palace is a small cemetery containing the graves of some Europeans who died in the fort. The remaining Hindu palaces, Karan Mandir and Vikram Mandir, are of little interest, while the two Muslim palaces, Jehangir Mahal and Shahjahani Mahal, are poor structures, built of rubble and plaster.

Of many temples and shrines which still stand on the fort, three deserve special mention. The twin structures which are known as Sas-Bahu temple occupy a picturesque position on the eastern rampart. Sas-Bahu, which means



'Mother-in-law and Daughter-in-law', is a popular name generally given to similar objects standing side by side. These temples are Hindu and not Jain as commonly believed, and this is proved beyond doubt by sculptures and by a Kachhawaha inscription on one of them.

The larger Sas-Bahu temple consists of a central square hall flanked on three sides by porches and on the fourth by the adytum which is now vacant. In the centre is a square dais at each corner of which there is a sturdy pier to support the central ceiling. The ceiling is a richly carved dome rising from a square base of four architraves into an octagon and further into diminishing circles one above another. The outer facing of the shrine, and its spire which must have soared up nearly 100 feet in height, has disappeared. The doorway is ornamented with a profusion of sculptures which hardly leaves a space uncarved. The temple is dedicated to Vishnu and bears an inscription which mentions its erection in 1093 A. D.

The smaller Sas-Bahu is of smaller dimensions and is a fine specimen of the ornate style of temple architecture of Medieval India. The building is only a part of its original structure, the shrine having now disappeared altogether.

The third temple of interest is now called the Teli-Ka-Mandir. It is the loftiest of all the existing buildings in the fort, nearly over 100 feet in height. It is a Pratihara Vishnu temple of 9th century peculiar in plan and design. The form of roof is Dravidian, while the decorative details have all Indo-Aryan characteristics of Northern India. It is thus an interesting example of temple architecture, where both the Dravidian and Indo-Aryan styles meet. The original name seems to have been Telangana Mandir, which has now become corrupted to Teli-Ka-Mandir.

The remaining Hindu shrines are those of Suryadev, Jayanti-Thora, Mata devi, Dhondadev and Mahadev. The Suryadev shrine is modern, but it probably marks the site of an old temple of Surya which, as we know, was built by one Matricheta in the 15th regnal year of the Huna conqueror Mihirkula (circa 525 A.D.). The Matadevi temple situated near the south-east corner of the Surajkund tank is in ruined condition. The dome which now surmounts the shrine is modern. From the style of sculptures the temple is assigned to 12th century A.D. Another rock-cut shrine crowned with a shikhar shelters an image of Chaturbhuj, the four-armed Vishnu. It bears two inscriptions dated V. S. 932 and 933, the former referring to its construction by Alla, son of Vailabhata in the reign of Ramdeva of Kanauj.

Two miles south of the hill-fortress, in a horse-shoe shaped valley opening eastwards lies Lashkar, the former capital of the Gwalior State. It is picturesquely situated in 26° 12' N; 78° 15' E., and covers an area of 4,280 acres with a population, excluding Gwalior and Morar, of nearly 142,443. Its foundations were laid by Daulat Rao Sindhia in 1810, when, after wresting the territory from his vassal Ambaji Ingle, fixed on this spot his military camp or *Lashkar*, from which it derives its present name. A year or so later a few buildings were



erected, notably the old palace, now called Maharajwada. Even in 1818, however, it was little more than a great encampment as the following description by an eye-witness shows:—"It (Lashkar) presents the appearance of an immense village, or rather collection of villages, with about a dozen chunamed (stucco) buildings, shapeless, coarse, without any air of ornament..... and here and there many small trees and hedges of the milk plant, all of quick growth and late planting but yet giving the whole a fixed and settled aspect.....At the second gaze, however, you see interspersed many tents and palls, flags and pennons, in some parts hutted lines and piles or arms.....in one range a large regular park of artillery, in all open spaces horses picketed, strings of camels and a few stately elephants. On the skirts of this large mass a few stately and more regular encampments belonging to particular chiefs with their followers, better armed and mounted. The sounds too of neighings of horses, drums and fire-arms, and occasionally the piercing trump of an elephant mingled in the confusion with the hum of a population loud, busy and tumultuous, convincingly tell you that the trade here is war, the manufacture one of arms."<sup>1</sup> The sites of these encampments are still marked by names such as Mahadik-ki-goth, Nimbalkar-ki-goth, etc. By 1829, however, the city had assumed a more settled appearance, the main street having many large houses built of stone.

A little beyond the station, near the massive stone road bridge, is a walled enclosure called Phoolbagh which contains residential palaces, a museum and other buildings. Inside this is situated the Gandhi Park which is an attractive beauty spot. The gardens are artistically laid out and possess tall, majestic trees as well as innumerable varieties of plants and flowers. The park was laid out by Madhav Rao Sindhia and was opened by Prince of Wales when he visited Gwalior in February 1922. An unfailing attraction for the visitors is a Zoological park where different specimens of animals and birds have been kept. It has a museum which contains a collection of coins, curios, stuffed birds and other varied exhibits of natural history. Within the premises of the same enclosure, amidst attractive surroundings, stands a statue set in a marble canopy, of Maharani Sakhya Raja, popularly called Jeeja Maharaj. Another distinctive feature of this park is a Hindu Temple, a Muslim Mosque, a Sikh Gurudwara and a Theosophical Lodge—all built by the State as an expression of its catholicity in religious matters.

Another noteworthy edifice is the Jai Vilas palace, built in 1872-74 at a cost of about Rs. 19 lacs for the residence of the Sindhias. It stands in an extensive park abounding in shady trees and pleasant roads, with here and there artificial lakes, grassy lawns, and flower beds which lend colour and beauty to the scene. The area of the palace is 12,40,771 square feet, exclusive of the inner square which is 321 feet  $\times$  321½ feet. Its architect and builder was Sir Michael Filose, who skillfully designed it on the plan of an Italian Palazzo. It combines in its construction three distinct styles of architecture. The ground floor is in Tuscan style, the first floor represents the Italian design and the topmost storey the Corinthian. The palace is an imposing structure of sandstone, painted with

1. Sketches of India by an Officer for Fire Side Travellers, P. 254.



dazzling whitewash, which from a distance gives an illusion of marble. The main entrances of the palace are by two covered porticos east and west of the centre of the south facade. The crystal staircase leads to a south veranda whose view is bounded by a low range of hills. Immediately below is placed a huge bronze cannon found on a hill near the town of Vidisha a piece of ordnance cast in the year 1602 A.D. The Durbar Hall (Majh-Ghar) is a beautifully proportioned chamber, 97' 8" in length, 50' wide and 41' in height, Corinthian in style, and decorated in cream and gold. The magnificent arched roof, a triumph of the builder's art, bears the weight of two enormous crystal chandeliers. Curtains of gold plush drape the doors, over which painted cherubs, deport themselves in groups, while several huge mirrors on the walls multiply the gorgeous beauties of the scene. All this mass of shining dazzling blaze of colour set off by the white and gold decoration, is enhanced by a red carpet—a master piece of size and beauty made in Gwalior Jail.

The Motimahal palace, once the Secretariat of Madhya Bharat now houses offices of different departments of the State. Some of its rooms are inlaid with mosaic works of coloured glass and decorated with mural paintings which represent scenes from Hindu mythology, the 'Ragas' and 'Raginis' and also scenes from the ceremonial durbars, and processions of Maharaja Jayaji Rao.

Other noteworthy buildings in the city are Kampoo Kothi and Imambara. The Kampoo Kothi is an old residential palace, the major portion of which is now occupied by educational institution. It is remarkable for the paintings on its ceilings and walls. Nearby is the Imam Bada built for seating the Maharaja's *Tazia* during the Muharram festival.

From Kampoo a road leads to Jayaji Chowk, also known as *Gorkhi* or *Bada*. The Jayaji Chowk, the biggest square in the heart of the city of Lashkar, takes its name from a bronze statue of Maharaja Jayaji Rao standing in the centre of a high pedestal under a pointed spire. It is the busiest part of the city surrounded as it is by the Government Press, Vegetable market and the *Gorkhi*, in a portion of which are situated the offices of District Magistrate and the Sub-Treasury, the General Post Office and the Municipal office, a newly constructed Refugees' market, the Krishnaram Baldeo Bank and the Apex Bank and the branch of the State Bank of India.

Other localities worth mentioning are Didwana Oli or quarter occupied by Marwari merchants from Didwana, Daulatganj, Dal Bazar, Naya Bazar, Janakganj, Patankar-ka-Bazar and Chhatri Bazar. The last locality contains Chhatris of the Sindhias, not including, however, the great Mahadji Sindhia who died near Poona. Of these the most charming and the most ornate is the cenotaph under which reposes the ashes of Jayaji Rao. This massive oblong structure of sandstone, some forty feet high is finely carved on the outside with mythological devices and is surrounded by a cupola which imparts to it the appearance of a large Hindu temple.

Beyond Sarafa comes the Patankar Bazar near which are seen buildings of Madhya Pradesh High Court, built in Ionic-Grecian style and formerly known



as Jinsi building. Further up is the Indarganj square also known as Kala-Ghora owing to the statue of Madhav Rao Sindhia. Across the square are situated the buildings of Chamber of Commerce, Sanatan Dharma Mandal and Gyan Mandir.

From there a route leads to the Railway station, passing through Jayandra ganj and Shinde-ki Chhaoni. On the way, a little towards the west of Park Hotel, stands another memorial, sheltering the mortal remains of Rani Laxmi Bai of Jhansi whose chivalry has been praised even by her enemies. The platform marks the site where her body was cremated in a stack of hay by a band of devoted followers.

Further ahead is the Morar road, leading to Morar, the third component part of Greater Gwalior. About half a mile from the Grand Hotel on the right of the main road is the old Race Course, now used for games and athletic meets. On the left is the building of Agriculture College. A little ahead are the Mela grounds with permanent structures for holding an annual cattle fair and exhibitions.

### Morar

Morar ( $26^{\circ} 14' N$ ;  $78^{\circ} 16' E$ , Tahsil Gird, area 12,700 acres; population 15,700, Station on Gwalior-Bhind section of Central Railway) situated on the Morar river, a small tributary to Vaisali, is a component part of Gwalior city. It was founded in 1844 as a cantonment for the Gwalior contingent and is now the Station Headquarters of a Unit of the Army. In recent times it has become a big trading centre, especially for grains. There are three large European cemeteries near the station. About a mile towards north is situated the Morar dam. On the banks of the river below is a small garden which provides a popular resort for the evening.

### Harsi

Harsi ( $25^{\circ} 46' N$ ,  $78^{\circ} 1' E$ , Tahsil Gird, D. B. near the dam), situated fifty eight miles from Gwalior is famous for an irrigation dam of the same name. The dam impounds Parbati river at the point where it leaves the hill. The reservoir thus formed is the biggest in the district and has a storage capacity of 1234 million cubic feet, the catchment area being 726 square miles. The main dam is rubble faced and has a length of 6580 feet.

The area of the village according to 1951 Census is 5230 acres. Its population is 633 which comprises 309 males and 324 females.

### Himmatgarh

Himmatgarh ( $26^{\circ} 3' N$ ,  $78^{\circ} 7' E$ , Tahsil Pichhore), is noted for a hill fortress situated on an isolated rock about 100 feet in height at the southern mouth of the long Panniar Pass, which lies between Narwar and Gwalior. It is about 1,200 ft. in length from north to south, but its breadth is not more than 250 ft. in the widest part. It is approached by a steep zig-zag path on the west side, and the rock is scarped all round.

This Jat fort seems to be contemporaneous with the forts of Pichhore and Bhitwar. The fortification wall and bastions are intact but the residential



buildings and the temple of a goddess are in a ruined condition. There is a masonry tank, oblong in shape and covered on top. Five old unserviceable guns lie within the fort. The area of the village according to 1951 Census is 562 acres. Its population numbering 339 includes 185 males and 154 females.

### Jakhoda

Jakhoda (26° 10' N.; 77° 30' E., Tahsil Pichhore) is a village about one mile south-east of Dande-ki-Khidak which is 10 miles south-west of Ghatigaon on Agra-Bombay road. It was a *Mahal* in the Gwalior Sarkar during the Mughul period. Abul Fazl in *Ain-i-Akbari* mentions of a fort there which is obviously the ruined *garhi* on the hill overlooking the village. It seems to have been built by Gujar Thakurs earlier in the sixteenth century who resided in that region then. Even today the village is populated by Gujars. Towards north of the village stands a Shiva temple in total ruin. Close to it lie several Sati stones with illegible inscriptions, one of which is dated V. S. 1475 and another refers to Devi Jasodda, probably the name of a Sati.

The area of the village according to 1951 Census was 19,571 acres; its population 1,239 consisting of 673 males and 566 females. A primary school managed by Government is situated here.

### Karhaiya

Karhaiya (25° 54' N.; 78° 3' E., Tahsil Pichhore) a village on the Bhitwar-Harsi road has a *garhi* in dilapidated condition. It is said to have been built by Parmara Rajputs in 17th-18th century A. D. There is a seven-storeyed tower about three miles north-west of village in a cavern. It is built of stone masonry for an observation post and bears an inscription dated V. S. 1864 (1807 A.D.). In the vicinity there are several temples, *viz.*, Makaradhwaja, Bankhandeshvar Mahadeo, Goleshvar Mahadeo, which are embowered by trees and plentifully supplied with water. There is a memorial pillar near Goleshvar Mahadeo with sculptured panels representing warriors killed in battle.

The area of the village, according to the 1951 Census is 8,655 acres. Its population of 1,853 consists of 981 males and 872 females. It has a Primary and Middle School, a Police Station, a branch Post Office, an Ayurvedic Dispensary and a branch Library. A weekly *hat* meets here on every Monday.

### Lashkar (See Gwalior)

### Maharajpur.

Maharajpur (26° 16' N. 78° 17' E. Tahsil Pichhore) is noted for a battle fought on December 29, 1843, between the forces of the East Indian Company and the Sindhia.

There is a tomb in the shape of pavilion marking a common grave for all the dead British soldiers while two tombs placed near the Mughul bridge on Asan river shelters remains of General Churdrik. C. B., and Lt. Col. Edward Sanders of Bengal Engineers.

The area of the place, according to 1951 Census is 1,131 acres; its population 369, consisting of 216 males and 153 females. An aerodrome has been constructed here.



**Mastura**

Mastura ( $25^{\circ} 49'$  N.  $78^{\circ} 4'$  E. Tahsil Pichhore), situated 25 miles west of Dabra station, was the headquarters of the Pargana Mastura, Zila Gwalior-Gird. There is a small fort built by a Jat chief Bhairaj Shah in 18th century. His beautiful *Chhatra* still stands outside the village in a good state of preservation. The fort is built on a plane with three lines of fortified walls which are further strengthened with two moats around them. Inside the fort only two buildings are now well preserved. One of these is a single-storeyed building called *Kachhari* and the other one called *Zanana Mahal*, is a double-storeyed edifice built of red sandstone.

The area of the village according to 1951 Census is 2,968 acres ; its population 978 consisting of 526 males and 452 females. A Primary School, a branch Post and Telegraph office and a Public Health Sub-Centre are located here.

**Morar (See Gwalior)****Nagda**

Nagda ( $26^{\circ} 12'$  N.  $78^{\circ} 1'$  E. Tahsil Gird) is an old village situated 11 miles west of Lashkar on the Sank river. The remains of several old buildings are to be seen here. A temple of Narkeshwar Mahadeo, containing a perennial stream in it, is of considerable local reputation. This village is said to have been the home of Mrignayani, the favourite Gujar queen of Raja Man Singh Tomara of Gwalior. The area of the village according to 1951 Census is 1,183 acres.

**Panniar**

Panniar ( $26^{\circ} 6'$  N.  $78^{\circ} 4'$  E. Tahsil Gird, Railway Station on Central Railway), also spelt as Panihar, is a small village 15 miles from Lashkar on the Agra-Bombay road. Originally it was called *Pani-ka-har* (a garland of water). Its history is connected with that village of Barai, two miles south to it. The tract in which these villages lie was originally given by the Narwar Raja to one Kone Rao, whose daughter he had married, as her dowry. It was at that time overgrown by jungle, which was cleared with the help of the men of the Barai caste. For over two centuries the descendants of Kone Rao held this land. In 1869 the two sons of Raja Suraj Singh, Raghunath Singh and Jagannath Singh quarrelled and the latter was forced to start a separate village and founded *Pani-ka-har*, where he built a fort. In 1765 the village passed into the hands of Mahadji Sindhia. In 1803 these villages fell to Raja Kirat Singh of Gohad. In 1805 A. D. they again came into the Sindhia's possession. In 1843 during the disturbance at Gwalior an action was fought here on 29th December by Colonel Grey. The fight was a most stubborn one, but resulted in the complete defeat of the Maratha forces. There is a memorial pillar marking the site of the battle field in the pass with an inscription dated 1843. An old fort partially in ruins stands near the village. It contains a temple of Bhowra from which an



underground passage leads to a subterranean hall 180 feet long. A considerable iron smelting industry flourished here in former days.

The area of the village according to 1951 Census is 6,218 acres; its population 1,735 consisting of 902 males and 833 females. It has a Primary and Middle School, a Post and Telegraph branch office and a Police Station.

### **Pawaya**

**Pawaya** (25° 46' N. 78° 17' E. Tahsil Picchore) is a small village 42 miles to the south-west of Gwalior and is reached by a cart track from Dabra which stands on the Gwalior-Jhansi road. There is a Dak Bunglow at Dabra which is a station on the Central Railway. Pawaya, which is situated on the confluence of rivers Sind and Parbati, has been indentified with the ancient city of Padmavati on the basis of literary and archaeological data.

Its early history is derived mainly from archaeological sources. The Khajuraho inscription dated V. S. 1058 (1000-1001 A. D.) assigns the foundations of Padmavati to sometime between the Krita and Treta aeons to a king of Padama dynasty. The city Padmavati is mentioned in the *Vishnu Purana* as being one of the three capitals of the Nagas, the other two being Kantipuri and Mathura. This is corroborated by the *Vayu Purana* which mentions two houses of the Nagas—one at Padmavati and the other at Mathura, the number of kings at each of the places being nine and seven respectively. An epigraphic record found at Pawaya proves the existence of Naga rule at the beginning of the first century A. D. The Naga dynasty came to an end about the middle of the 4th century A. D., when their kingdom was absorbed in the Gupta empire. Padmavati is mentioned in the *Harshacharita* of Bana. A fuller allusion to it occurs in *Malati Madhav* by the well-known Sanskrit dramatist Bhavabhuti, who has given us a description of the geographical surroundings of the city with remarkable minuteness. It had also a University which attracted students from distant places such as Vidarbha. During the Medieval period it was under the sway of various Rajput and Muhammadan dynasties ruling over Narwar which is about 25 miles to the west. In 1506 Sikandar Lodi conquered Narwar, and Pawaya was made the headquarters of a district. Safdar Khan, who was perhaps the first governor, is said to have improved upon a fort built by Paramars and called it Askandarabad as recorded in a Persian inscription. Jahangir, the Mughul emperor, gave this tract as a gift to Birsingh Deo of Orchha for his loyal services. The Bundela chieftain built a two-storeyed temple of Shiva, called Dhumesvar Mahadev, which stands like a sentinel on the rocky bank near a waterfall in the river. Overlooking the waterfall is a huge masonry platform, locally known as Nau-chawki which is traditionally connected with the name of Prithiviraj Chauhan.

The ancient site has been excavated in four instalments in the year 1925, 1934, 1940 and 1941. The place has yielded numerous antiquities ranging in date from 1st to 8th centuries A.D. Of these the life size statue of Yakasha Manibhadra with a Brahmi inscription of about 1st century A. D. is the most



noteworthy. Other important finds are an image of four-armed Vishnu, a double-faced sun capital, the statue of a Naga king, a palm capital, and a large carved fragment of a huge gateway lintel containing in relief, scenes from the Hindu mythology and a dance accompanied by music.

One of the mounds, standing near the northern bank of the river has revealed an interesting terraced brick structure consisting of three platforms, placed one above the other, receding in suitable proportion. It seems that the top platform once supported superstructure, which should have been the shrine proper, the remains of which are not traceable now. The two other platforms below probably served the purpose of a path of circumambulation or *Pradakshina-path* all around the structure. The shrine was sacred to Vishnu as evidenced by the discovery of an image of that god as well as other terracotta figures depicting Brahmanical subjects. The whole structure has a remarkable resemblance to the terraced brick temple of Ram Nagar in Bareilly district of Uttar Pradesh. The site has also yielded a number of beautifully modelled terracotta figures and figurines which, probably, once adorned the side-walls of the temple. They are mostly fragments and none was found *in situ*. They consist of numerous human busts and heads with beautiful expressions, and fine arrangements of hair. On stylistic ground these antiquities can be safely assigned to the Gupta period. A number of coins picked up from the surface of the ruins have been collected and are now preserved in the Gwalior archaeological museum.

The area of the village according to 1951 Census is 2,342 acres; its population 617 consisting of 317 males and 300 females. A Primary School and a small local museum are located here. An annual religious fair is held here during *Shivaratri* which continues for fifteen days.

### Pichhore

Pichhore (25° 57' N.; 78° 26' E. D. B. on Sipri-Jhansi road; Tahsil Pichhore), a municipal town 23 miles south of Lashkar, is the headquarters of Tahsil Pichhore. It was originally called Kawalpur. A *garhi* popularly believed to be built by Raja Man Singh stands on the Basantinaka. It now contains six mosques and several temples. In one of the caverns of the fort there is a temple of a goddess, locally called Harsidhbi Mata Ka Mandir, which is the site of an annual fair in month of Chaitra. There is also a *Chhatri* of Hammira whose identity is not known. A brick built building in ruins was probably used as a *Kachhari* or Durbar Hall. There is a room in the tahsil premises, which has a few wall-paintings. In the market area there stands a circular tower 33' high and 20' 9" in circumference. About five furlongs from the town lies a tank about 100 years old and is known as Kalindri-ka-Talao.

The area of the village according to 1951 Census is 1291 acres; its population 4,060 consisting of 2,110 males and 1,950 females. There is one Higher Secondary School and a number of Primary and Middle Schools. A Civil



Hospital and a Post and Telegraph Office is located here. It is a wool-producing centre, exporting raw and spun wool. A weekly *hat* on Wednesday and an annual cattle fair in Vaishakh is held here.

### Salbye

Salbye ( $25^{\circ} 52' N.$ ;  $78^{\circ} 18' E.$ , Tahsil Pichhore), situated 10 miles west of Pichhore on the Dabra-Bhitarwar road, is known in history on account of a treaty concluded between East India Company and Mahadji Sindhia in 1782. The village belonged originally to the Bhadoria Rajputs. In 1751 Raja Badan Singh held the Salbye fort against the Maratha forces for six months, when he was killed and the garrison captured, the village passing into the hands of Sindhia. On a hillock south-west of the village stands a *garhi* in dilapidated condition, built by a Jat chief, probably in 16th-17th century A. D. The fort consists of a double fortification wall strengthened by round bastions and is entered through two gates called Hathi Darwaja and Sadar Darwaja.

The area of the village, according to 1951 Census is 3,257 acres and its population is 1,230 which consists of 632 males and 598 females. It has a Post and Telegraph Office, a Primary and Middle School and a branch library.

### Sujwaya

Sujwaya ( $26^{\circ} 12' N.$   $78^{\circ} 4' E.$  Tahsil Gird), a village about two miles south-west of Tigra ( $26^{\circ} 13' N.$ ;  $78^{\circ} 5' E.$ ), which is 11 miles by an all-weather road to the west of Lashkar, has groups of temples of about the 11th century A. D. The larger group stands on the slope of a hill to the north of village Malipura ( $26^{\circ} 11' N.$ ;  $78^{\circ} 3' E.$ ), which once formed an adjunct of Sujwaya. One of the temples is dedicated to Shiva as it enshrines an image of Shiva and Patwari seated on Nandi. Two large ceiling slabs with large lotus motif carved on them are lying here. The other temples are of Jain Tirthankars. The object worth noting in these ruins is an upper fragment of a pillar 6' 5" long and 15" in diameter. The existing shaft is round but the base was probably four-sided. About two furlongs to the north of this group are two modern *madhis*. The bigger one has an old memorial pillar of the 11th century A. D., with usual carvings and it shelters a modern image of Hanuman. Nearby is the smaller *madhi* with an image of the ten-armed Kali. A tall stone post with a panel depicting a cow and a calf is also placed close-by. On the bank of the *nalla* there are ruins of another group of Jain temples standing on a prominence.

According to the Census of 1951, the area of the village is 2,453 acres and its population is 278 which comprises equal number of males and females. A Primary School is located here.

### Tekanpur

Tekanpur ( $25^{\circ} 59' N.$ ;  $78^{\circ} 21' E.$ , Tahsil Pichhore), situated 19 miles from Lashkar on Gwalior-Dabra road, has an irrigation dam. Its construction was started in 1860 and was completed in 1910. Near the dam is the



*Kothi* of Maharaja Sindhia called Jahaj Mahal. Facilities for boating are available here.

Its area according to 1951 Census is 1,468 acres and its population 627 consisting of 315 males and 312 females. A Primary School and a branch library are located here. A religious fair is held here for a day at the time of *Shivaratri*.

### Tigra

Tigra ( $26^{\circ} 13' N.$ ;  $78^{\circ} 5' E.$ , Tahsil Gird), village 11 miles south-west of Gwalior, is an important place in the Sank-Asan irrigation scheme. It is known for a masonry dam, nearly a mile long, built across the Sank river. The maximum height of the dam is 80 feet, and the width of its base 65 feet, the top width being 10 feet throughout. The catchment area is 160 square miles with the capacity of 4,600 million cubic feet. The water surface when the reservoir is full is seven and a half square miles. In 1917 the dam was breached to a length of 1,300 feet on account of an inundation but later it was repaired and a waste reservoir was provided with automatic shutters. The Tigra reservoir supplies drinking water to Gwalior city, in addition to supplying water for irrigation to certain areas. The Madhosagar lake at Tigra served as a sea plane base called Madhav Marinodrome in the pre-War years. It included a landing jetty, rest house for passengers, etc. This is not in use now.

A Post and Telegraph office and a Police Station are located here. Its area according to 1951 Census is 1,925 acres and its population 251 consisting of 133 males and 118 females. The locality has been provided with all modern amenities.

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## APPENDICES

सत्यमेव जयते

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सत्यमेव जयते



# APPENDIX I **Normals and Extremes of Rainfall**

Station	No. of years	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual rainfall as % of normal and year†	Highest annual rainfall as % of normal and year†	Lowest annual rainfall as % of normal and year†	Heaviest rainfall in 24 hours* Amount (mm)	Date
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)
Pichhore	..	45	a 9.1	6.6	6.9	4.8	7.6	59.2	221.5	230.1	121.2	14.2	6.3	5.6 693.1	169 (1917)	30 (1941)	274.3	1952 June 29
			b 0.7	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.7	3.7	10.5	10.2	5.4	0.8	0.4	0.6 34.9				
Ghatigaon	..	42	a 10.2	6.1	4.8	5.8	6.1	79.3	224.5	227.8	121.7	7.1	3.1	4.6 701.1	196 (1924)	44 (1941)	182.9	1924 Aug. 1
			b 0.9	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.7	4.1	10.6	10.7	5.5	0.6	0.2	0.6 35.7				
Bhander	..	46	a 9.7	8.9	6.9	2.8	4.8	62.5	246.9	259.8	119.9	16.5	5.8	4.6 749.1	153 (1934)	38 (1918)	226.1	1940 Aug. 5
			b 0.9	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.6	3.8	11.2	10.9	5.2	0.7	0.4	0.5 35.9				
Gwalior	..	46	a 14.5	8.9	4.8	4.8	6.9	60.2	257.8	259.3	143.8	14.0	3.3	7.6 735.9	168 (1904)	36 (1905)	199.0	1945 Sept. 10
			b 1.1	0.9	0.6	0.4	0.7	3.2	12.0	11.1	5.8	0.8	0.2	0.6 37.4				
Gwalior District	..		a 10.9	7.6	5.9	4.5	6.3	65.3	237.7	244.3	126.7	12.9	4.6	5.6 732.3	181 (1904)	39 (1905)	..	..
			b 0.9	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.7	3.7	11.1	10.7	5.5	0.7	0.3	0.6 36.1				

(a) Normal rainfall in mm.

(b) Average number of rainy days (days with rain of 2.5 mm. or more).

\*Based on data up to 1957.

†Years given in brackets.



# APPENDIX II Normals of Temperature and Relative Humidity

Month	Mean Daily Maximum Temperature °C	Mean Daily Minimum Temperature °C	Highest Maximum ever recorded		Lowest Minimum ever recorded		Relative-Humidity		
			°C	Date	°C	Date	0830 %	1730* %	
January	..	22.9	7.8	31.7	1953 Jan. 5	1.1	1954 Jan. 24	72	43
February	..	26.9	9.9	36.7	1949 Feb. 22	0.6	1950 Feb. 12	56	30
March	..	33.4	15.9	41.7	1945 Mar. 31	7.2	1945 Mar. 8	38	19
April	..	39.1	23.3	46.2	1958 April 28	12.8	1943 April 2	26	15
May	..	43.1	28.6	48.3	1947 May 30	20.6	1958 May 13	24	16
June	..	41.2	30.3	47.2	1945 June 15	21.1	1944 June 5	43	32
July	..	33.9	26.6	43.9	1948 July 3	22.8	1942 July 26	77	69
August	..	31.9	25.3	38.3	1954 Aug. 1	21.1	1955 Aug. 7	82	76
September	..	32.3	24.4	37.2	1951 Sept. 26	18.3	1942 Sept. 29	76	67
October	..	33.5	17.9	39.4	1951 Oct. 17	8.9	1952 Oct. 31	59	42
November	..	29.6	10.6	35.6	1941 Nov. 1	3.9	1946 Nov. 18	50	34
December	..	24.6	7.1	31.1	1954 Dec. 1	0.0	1945 Dec. 25	61	39
Annual	..	32.7	19.0					55	40

\*Hours I. S. T.

\*Hours I. S. T.







**APPENDIX VI**  
**Variation in Urban Population, 1901-1951**

Years	Urban Population	Net Variation during					
		10 years	20 years	30 years	40 years	50 years	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	
1901	..	1,39,515	—54,308 (—38.92)	—24,612 (—17.64)	—11,067 (—7.93)	+45,655 (+32.72)	+1,08,443 (+77.73)
1911	..	85,207	+29,696 (+34.85)	+43,241 (+50.75)	+99,963 (+117.32)	+1,62,751 (+191.01)	
1921	..	1,14,903	+13,545 (+11.79)	+70,267 (+61.15)	+1,33,055 (+115.80)		
1931	..	1,28,448	+56,722 (+44.16)	+1,19,510 (+93.04)			
1941	..	1,85,170	+62,788 (+33.91)				
1951	..	2,47,958					

(Figures in bracket are percentages)

**APPENDIX VII**  
**Variation in Rural Population, 1901-1951**

Years	Rural Population	Net Variation during					
		10 years	20 years	30 years	40 years	50 years	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	
1901	..	2,54,223	-18,405 (-7.24)	-34,987 (-13.76)	-10,368 (-4.08)	+10,526 (+4.14)	+28,118 (+11.06)
1911	..	2,35,818	-16,582 (-7.03)	+8,037 (+3.41)	+28,931 (+12.27)	+46,523 (+19.73)	
1921	..	2,19,236	+24,619 (+11.23)	+45,513 (+20.76)	+63,105 (+28.78)		
1931	..	2,43,855	+20,894 (+8.57)	+38,486 (+15.78)			
1941	..	2,64,749	+17,592 (+6.65)				
1951	..	2,82,341					

(Figures in bracket are percentages)



## APPENDIX VIII

**Bilingualism-Subsidiary Languages, 1951**

Mother Tongue	Subsidiary Languages										Total Subsidiary
	Hindi (West-ern)	Rajas-thani	Mara-thi	Hindi (East-ern)	Guja-rati	Paha-ri	Sindhi	Ben-gali	Pun-jabi	Urdu	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
Hindi (Western)	..	910	987	2	29	13	409	12	832	2,510	5,691
Rajasthani	..	246	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	246
Marathi	..	14,950	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	14,961
Bengali	..	327	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	328
Hindi (Eastern)	..	22	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22
Gujarati	..	569	..	5	..	..	..	..	29	2	605
Urdu	..	6,834	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	..	6,841
Sindhi	..	9,098	..	..	..	..	..	..	47	193	9,338
Punjabi	..	5,654	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	174	5,829

## APPENDIX IX

**Number of Registered Civil Marriages**

Year	No. of Civil Marriage cases Instituted		No. of Marriages Solemnized out of the cases Instituted	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1952	..	..	1	1
1953	..	..	6	4
1954	..	..	4	4
1955	..	..	3	3
1956	..	..	12	4
1957	..	..	2	1
1958	..	..	3	1
1959	..	..	4	5
1960	..	..	5	3
1961	..	..	11	4



# APPENDIX X Land Utilization

		(In Thousand Acres)						
Quinquennial Average	Total Geographical Area	Forests	Not Available for Cultivation	Cultivable Waste Excluding Fallow lands	Current Fallows	Total Cropped Area	Net Cropped Area	Area Sown More than Once
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
1911-12 to 1915-16	1090	143 (13.1)	388 (35.6)	233 (21.4)	78 (7.1)	274 (25.1)	248 (22.7)	26 (2.4)
1916-17 to 1920-21	1191	189 (15.9)	335 (28.1)	320 (26.9)	66 (5.5)	298 (25.0)	381 (23.6)	17 (1.4)
1921-22 to 1925-26	1090	193 (17.7)	336 (30.8)	144 (13.2)	132 (12.1)	298 (27.3)	285 (26.1)	13 (1.2)
1926-27 to 1930-31	1090	186 (17.1)	341 (31.3)	236 (21.6)	40 (3.7)	315 (28.9)	287 (26.3)	28 (2.6)
1931-32 to 1935-36	1090	195 (17.9)	331 (30.3)	205 (18.8)	37 (3.4)	343 (31.5)	322 (29.6)	21 (1.9)
1936-37 to 1940-41	1172	209 (17.8)	331 (28.2)	246 (21.0)	41 (3.5)	363 (31.0)	345 (29.5)	18 (1.5)
1941-42 to 1945-46	1191	209 (17.5)	334 (28.1)	252 (21.2)	42 (3.5)	374 (31.4)	354 (29.7)	20 (1.7)
1946-47 to 1950-51	1202	266 (22.1)	306 (25.5)	200 (16.6)	38 (3.2)	416 (34.6)	392 (32.6)	24 (2.0)
1951-52 to 1955-56	1290	270 (20.9)	289 (22.4)	233 (18.1)	26 (2.0)	496* (38.5)	472 (36.6)	24 (1.9)



## APPENDICES

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(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
1951-52	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1290	266	319	220	35	472	450	22
		(20.6)	(24.7)	(17.1)	(2.7)	(36.6)	(34.9)	(1.7)
1952-53	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1294	265	318	216	26	491	469	22
		(20.5)	(24.6)	(16.7)	(2.0)	(38.0)	(36.3)	(1.7)
1953-54	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1294	282	248	253	33	503	478	25
		(21.8)	(19.1)	(19.6)	(2.5)	(38.9)	(37.0)	(1.9)
1954-55	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1294	270	263	265	15	502	481	21
		(20.9)	(20.3)	(20.5)	(1.1)	(39.8)	(37.2)	(2.6)
1955-56	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1294	268	298	226	20	512	482	30
		(20.7)	(23.0)	(17.5)	(1.5)	(39.5)	(37.2)	(2.3)
1956-57	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1290	270	290	227	20	511	483	28
		(20.9)	(22.4)	(17.6)	(1.5)	(39.7)	(37.5)	(2.2)
1957-58	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1290	272	264	250	23	508	481	27
		(21.1)	(20.5)	(19.4)	(1.8)	(39.4)	(37.3)	(2.1)
1958-59	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1290	271	259	249	20	526	491	35
		(21.0)	(20.1)	(19.3)	(1.5)	(40.8)	(38.1)	(2.7)
1959-60	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1290	272	254	240	17	543	507	36
		(21.1)	(19.7)	(18.6)	(1.3)	(42.1)	(39.3)	(2.8)



**APPENDIX XI**  
**Area of Crops Irrigated**

Year	(In Acres)						
	Rice	Wheat	Gram	All Pulses	Sugarcane	All Food Crops	All Non-Food Crops
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1950-51	28,178 (88.26)	36,267 (33.45)	14,195 (11.86)	14,946 (10.17)	8,606 (99.86)	93,658 (23.86)	3,388 (5.01)
1951-52	18,821 (89.35)	27,583 (29.11)	11,761 (8.62)	12,329 (7.28)	11,749 (99.88)	77,373 (19.48)	3,061 (4.10)
1952-53	25,622 (92.61)	42,029 (38.09)	15,641 (12.34)	16,387 (10.28)	9,217 (99.69)	1,00,360 (23.38)	2,585 (4.14)
1953-54	34,405 (94.34)	10,243 (8.53)	2,021 (1.64)	2,502 (1.62)	6,052 (99.97)	59,573 (13.40)	619 (1.05)
1954-55	25,453 (94.69)	36,025 (25.13)	10,323 (10.14)	10,812 (8.16)	5,531 (96.71)	84,223 (18.89)	904 (1.60)
1955-56	25,985 (94.57)	41,608 (21.17)	11,273 (10.26)	11,670 (8.40)	11,982 (99.49)	97,029 (20.90)	977 (2.05)
1956-57	36,972 (96.26)	36,753 (21.05)	8,626 (8.59)	9,730 (7.14)	16,583 (99.84)	1,05,816 (22.76)	1,037 (2.21)
1957-58	35,990 (96.91)	40,117 (24.82)	11,048 (9.81)	12,172 (8.06)	15,839 (9.83)	1,11,333 (24.00)	1,266 (2.83)
1958-59	45,648 (95.05)	41,341 (23.46)	11,219 (10.17)	11,793 (7.65)	13,696 (99.91)	1,19,243 (24.79)	1,334 (2.96)
1959-60	49,545 (95.72)	44,066 (24.77)	11,360 (9.44)	12,051 (7.51)	15,237 (99.81)	1,28,347 (25.61)	1,254 (2.99)
							1,29,601 (23.86)

Note—Figures in brackets show the percentage of the crops irrigated.



# APPENDIX XII Area Under Principal Crops

Crop	(In Acres)										
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56	1956-57	1957-58	1958-59	1959-60	
Rice	..	31923	21064	27642	36466	26899	27476	37785	37137	48028	51761
Jowar	..	77863	81506	103355	107461	119478	95337	78229	79683	70216	76153
Wheat	..	108406	94749	110339	120073	139347	168439	174567	161596	176223	177882
All Cereals and Millets	..	231058	208960	255754	278463	301531	307356	306770	289894	306262	317930
Gram	..	119651	136315	126738	122650	101751	109832	100414	112520	110299	120573
All Pulses	..	146831	169117	157823	153767	132471	138808	134800	150616	154136	160461
Sugarcane	..	8620	11762	9244	6094	5719	12044	16610	15866	13708	15257
Condiments and Spices	..	1073	1566	1220	1406	1436	1247	1415	1330	1072	1406
Potatoes	..	1556	2471	1902	1769	1755	1737	2247	2723	2436	2688
Fruits and Vegetables	..	4855	5608	5055	4577	4379	4327	5072	3610	5696	6151
All Food crops	..	392437	397013	425556	444452	445734	464657	464840	463699	480997	501205
Sesamum	..	36402	40489	34094	34381	32895	19816	17842	13692	10745	12535
Linseed	..	12101	11034	9614	6663	5764	8151	11471	9637	13449	11322
All Oil Seeds	..	52232	55677	46812	43842	42513	34296	37891	33257	34915	31320
All Fibres	..	3050	4024	3398	2194	1880	1991	1510	1477	1762	1703
All Non-Food Crops	..	67575	74573	62421	58512	56212	47512	46713	44588	45118	41882







## APPENDIX XIV

## Number of Factories Registered under the Factories Act, 1948

Name of the Industry	Year 1956 No. of Factories	Year 1958 No. of Factories	Year 1959 No. of Factories	Year 1960 No. of Factories
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
<b>Food except Beverages</b>				
Canning & Preservation of fruits & vegetables ..	2	2	2	2
Manufacture of Grain Mill Products.—				
(a) Rice Mills .. .. .	2	2	2	2
(b) Dal Mills .. .. .	3	1	2	2
Manufacture of Bakery Products .. .. .	1	1	1	1
Sugar Factories and Refineries.—				
(a) Sugar .. .. .	1	1	1	1
Manufacture of Miscellaneous Food Preparations				
(a) Manufacture of Edible Oils (Other than Hydrogenated Oils).	1	1	1	1
Distilling, Rectifying & Blending of Spirits ..	1	1	1	1
<b>Spinning, Weaving and Finishing of Textiles</b>				
(a) Cotton Mills .. .. .	2	3	3	3
(b) Silk Mills .. .. .	1	1	1	1
(c) Woollen Mills .. .. .	1	2	1	1
(d) Carpet weaving .. .. .	4	3	3	3
Knitting Mills .. .. .	—	3	3	3
Manufacture of Wearing Apparel except Footwear				
(a) Umbrella .. .. .	1	1	1	1
<b>Manufacture of Wood &amp; Cork except Furniture</b>				
(a) Saw Mills .. .. .	1	—	—	—
<b>Manufacture of Furniture and Fixture .. ..</b>				
(a) Wooden .. .. .	1	1	1	1
<b>Printing, Book-Binding</b>				
(a) Letter Presses and Lithographic				
Printing and Book-Binding .. .. .	9	8	8	9
Tanneries and Leather Finishing .. .. .	1	1	1	1



	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Manufacture of Leather Products except Footwear and other Wearing apparel.		1	1	1	1
Manufacture of Rubber and Rubber Products..		1	1	1	1
<b>Basic Chemicals, including Fertilizers</b>					
(a) Artificial Manures .. .. .		1	1	—	—
Miscellaneous Chemical Products .. .. .					
(a) Fine and Pharmaceutical Chemicals..		—	—	1	1
(b) Matches .. .. .		1	—	1	1
(c) Others .. .. .		2	2	2	2
<b>Petroleum Refineries, etc.—</b>					
(a) Petroleum .. .. .		1	1	1	1
Manufacture of Pottery, China and Earthenware..		1	1	1	1
<b>Manufacture of Non-metallic Mineral Products not elsewhere classified</b>					
(a) Stone dressing & crushing .. .. .		—	1	2	2
<b>Ferrous Basic Metal</b>					
(a) Rolling into Basic Forms .. .. .		1	1	1	1
(b) Rough Casting .. .. .		1	1	1	2
<b>Manufacture of Metal Products (except machinery &amp; transport equipment)</b>					
(a) Metal Containers & Steel trunks .. .. .		1	1	1	6
(b) Cutlery, Locks etc. .. .. .		1	1	1	1
<b>Manufacture of Machinery except (Electrical Machinery)</b>					
(a) Machine Tools, Woodworking Machinery & Other Tools..		5	5	6	6
(b) Textile Machinery & Accessories .. .. .		2	2	2	1
(c) General & Jobbing Engineering .. .. .		—	—	—	1
<b>Repair of Motor Vehicles &amp; Cycles</b>					
(a) Motor vehicles .. .. .		4	5	5	5
Manufacture of Bicycles .. .. .		—	—	—	1
Manufacture of Transport Equipment					
(a) Others .. .. .		3	3	3	2
<b>Manufacturing Industries not elsewhere specified.</b>					
(a) Pen, Pencil, Ink etc. .. .. .		—	—	1	1
(b) Ice & Ice Products .. .. .		1	1	1	1
(c) Plastic Articles .. .. .		1	1	1	1
Electric Light and Power distribution .. .. .		2	2	2	2
Water Supply Stations .. .. .		1	1	1	1
<b>Grand Total</b> .. .. .		63	64	68	75



## APPENDIX XV

## Statement of imports and exports into and from Gwalior District for the period 1911-1941

## Imports

Name of Articles	Year 1911-12 to 1920-21		Year 1921-22 to 1930-31		Year 1931-32 to 1940-41	
	Qty. in Mds.	Value in Rs.	Qty. in Mds.	Value in Rs.	Qty. in Mds.	Value in Rs.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Grain .. ..	13,45,927	..	24,33,951	..	13,76,163	..
Ghee, Oily & Greasy Arti- cles, Oilseeds, etc.	3,20,476	4,86,564	2,51,413	9,35,071	1,39,337	8,57,303
Grocery & Kira- na.	1,24,634	..	2,32,963	..	3,03,665	17,87,203
Metals .. ..	..	20,25,776	..	61,11,852	4,33,952	..
Fibrous Articles	1,84,431	2,36,50,640	1,51,201	2,93,17,364	1,33,113	2,07,03,342
Intoxicating .. Drugs includ- ing Opium.	1,06,032	9,69,558	56,129	4,92,196	..	2,47,805
Fire works and Explosives.	843	55,334	9,909	50,187	6,176	2,18,493
Wood & Fodder	7,51,703	3,17,216	29,23,663	2,96,640	20,62,642	..
Dyes .. ..	..	1,88,098	..	1,19,648	..	..
Stones & Clay ..	93,054	38,720	64,820	76,452	65,519	1,19,009
Haberdashery ..	..	37,98,682	56,287	91,63,566	5,38,186	3,65,20,252
Cattle & their leather	..	3,63,616	9,912	3,50,808	8,285	1,94,974



## Exports

Name of Articles	Year 1911-12 to 1920-21		Year 1921-22 to 1930-31		Year 1931-32 to 1940-41	
	Qty. in Mds.	Value in Rs.	Qty. in Mds.	Value in Rs.	Qty. in Mds.	Value in Rs.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Grain .. ..	8,20,180	..	13,49,639	..	15,75,109	..
Ghee, Oily and Greasy Articles, Oilseeds, etc.	4,50,380	..	11,22,970	..	5,57,225	21,08,258
Grocery & Kirana.	..	..	..	..	..	..
Metals .. ..	..	10,00,760	6,413	42,326	29,821	1,71,849
Fibrous articles	..	..	..	..	37,112	3,55,336
Intoxicating .. Drugs including Opium.	..	..	..	..	..	..
Fire works and Explosives.	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wood & Fodder	43,069	1,81,675	1,97,879	10,423	5,22,960	..
Dyes .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Stones and Clay	3,37,772	3,25,674	1,50,124	2,16,694	2,31,491	79,910
Haberdashery ..	..	59,718	..	30,117	89,953	5,88,528
Cattle & Their leather	44,362	16,50,618	30,445	7,25,625	4,00,502	1,85,783



(1)		(2)	(3)
		Rs.	Rs.
1957-58	..	17,34,773	16,95,131
1958-59	..	17,99,987	17,61,429
1959-60	..	18,07,378	17,74,729
1960-61	..	18,07,476	13,96,233

## APPENDIX XVIII

## Statement of Criminal Cases for the Period 1951-1959

Year	Dacoity	Robbery	Murder	Riot	Burglary	Cattle Theft	Theft (ordinary)	Kidnap- ping	Misceell- aneous I. P. C. crimes	Total	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	
1951	..	45	43	20	66	565	103	565	..	528	1,925
1952	..	29	52	21	44	543	114	528	1	475	1,807
1953	..	20	27	23	31	407	52	494	5	505	1,564
1954	..	16	27	25	21	378	106	466	..	342	1,381
1955	..	33	14	19	26	383	65	314	..	266	1,120
1956	..	45	13	30	17	387	62	426	5	326	1,311
1959	..	55	..	74	40	..	..	576	67	..	..

Note:—Figures for 1959 relate to Gwalior Sessions Division as a whole.





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APPENDIX XVI  
Family Income and Expenditure According to Income Groups

Monthly Income Groups	(1)	Number of Budgets	Average monthly income per family	(3)	Average no. of persons per family	(4)	Food	Fuel and Lighting	House rent.	Household requirement	Clothing and allied articles	(9)	Miscellaneous	Total monthly expenditure	(11)
Rs.															
30 and below	40	..	35-3-2	3.90	34-4-1	4-8-8	3-3-0	1-8-0	7-5-8	4-3-8	55-1-1				
40 "	50	..	45-15-9	3.53	34-2-3	3-14-10	2-14-4	6-10-7	5-4-8	..	52-14-8				
50 "	60	..	54-7-0	3.32	38-8-8	5-3-3	2-5-4	0-12-8	9-4-6	7-12-2	63-14-7				
60 "	70	..	63-3-2	4.14	46-2-3	5-9-9	3-1-5	0-2-10	9-4-6	7-15-11	72-4-8				
70 "	80	..	74-12-4	4.23	48-2-4	5-15-0	3-8-8	0-15-3	11-5-5	10-11-10	80-10-4				
80 "	90	..	82-14-0	3.94	49-11-11	5-6-5	3-2-5	1-14-1	10-2-7	10-8-7	80-14-0				
90 "	100	..	92-10-4	4.60	57-0-0	6-2-6	4-2-6	0-13-2	11-7-3	12-2-10	91-12-3				
100 "	110	..	103-4-10	5.06	58-14-0	6-15-4	3-14-5	0-10-5	13-7-10	14-10-8	98-8-8				
110 "	120	..	114-4-6	5.28	58-10-6	6-13-10	3-7-6	1-6-3	13-3-0	20-0-1	103-9-2				
120 "	130	..	127-7-5	6.30	70-12-10	7-7-2	3-4-0	0-8-8	14-13-3	15-15-8	112-13-7				
130 "	140	..	135-2-1	6.00	74-10-7	7-9-2	2-3-8	0-13-3	14-15-6	15-8-2	115-12-4				
140 "	150	..	144-6-2	7.27	79-9-2	9-9-11	4-12-4	0-1-5	16-5-9	12-8-2	122-14-9				
150 and above	..	..	130-15-10	7.77	101-1-7	10-3-5	6-4-8	7-10-8	21-12-2	22-9-7	169-10-1				
ALL INCOME	..	332	100-14-9	5.09	60-5-10 (60.88)	6-12-5 (6.83)	3-14-11 (3.97)	2-0-2 (2.02)	12-14-5 (13.02)	13-2-9 (13.28)	99-2-6 (100.00)				

NOTE.—Figures in brackets show percentages.



## APPENDIX XVII

## Land Revenue

Year		Total Demand	Total Collection
(1)		(2)	(3)
		Rs.	Rs.
1930-31	..	13,48,190	5,93,089
1931-32	..	15,03,821	6,40,516
1932-33	..	14,84,495	6,44,264
1933-34	..	14,79,186	6,02,858
1934-35	..	14,76,347	6,32,157
1935-36	..	14,65,058	5,90,466
1936-37	..	14,84,420	7,14,899
1937-38	..	8,51,675	7,75,210
1938-39	..	8,63,921	7,64,396
1939-40	..	8,74,826	8,01,449
1940-41	..	8,55,210	7,29,140
1941-42	..	7,42,415	1,95,155
1942-43	..	11,83,304	8,31,795
1943-44	..	12,36,725	9,76,657
1944-45	..	10,87,826	8,35,325
1945-46	..	9,99,174	8,81,335
1946-47	..	6,62,015	6,54,296
1947-48	..	6,67,670	6,95,002
1948-49	..	7,02,649	6,95,022
1949-50	..	7,17,295	7,02,286
1950-51	..	7,28,415	7,19,999
1951-52	..	13,36,784	12,85,761
1952-53	..	13,69,532	13,25,711
1953-54	..	19,49,744	1,88,710
1954-55	..	19,49,171	18,86,038
1955-56	..	18,19,279	16,50,270
1956-57	..	18,04,447	17,54,732



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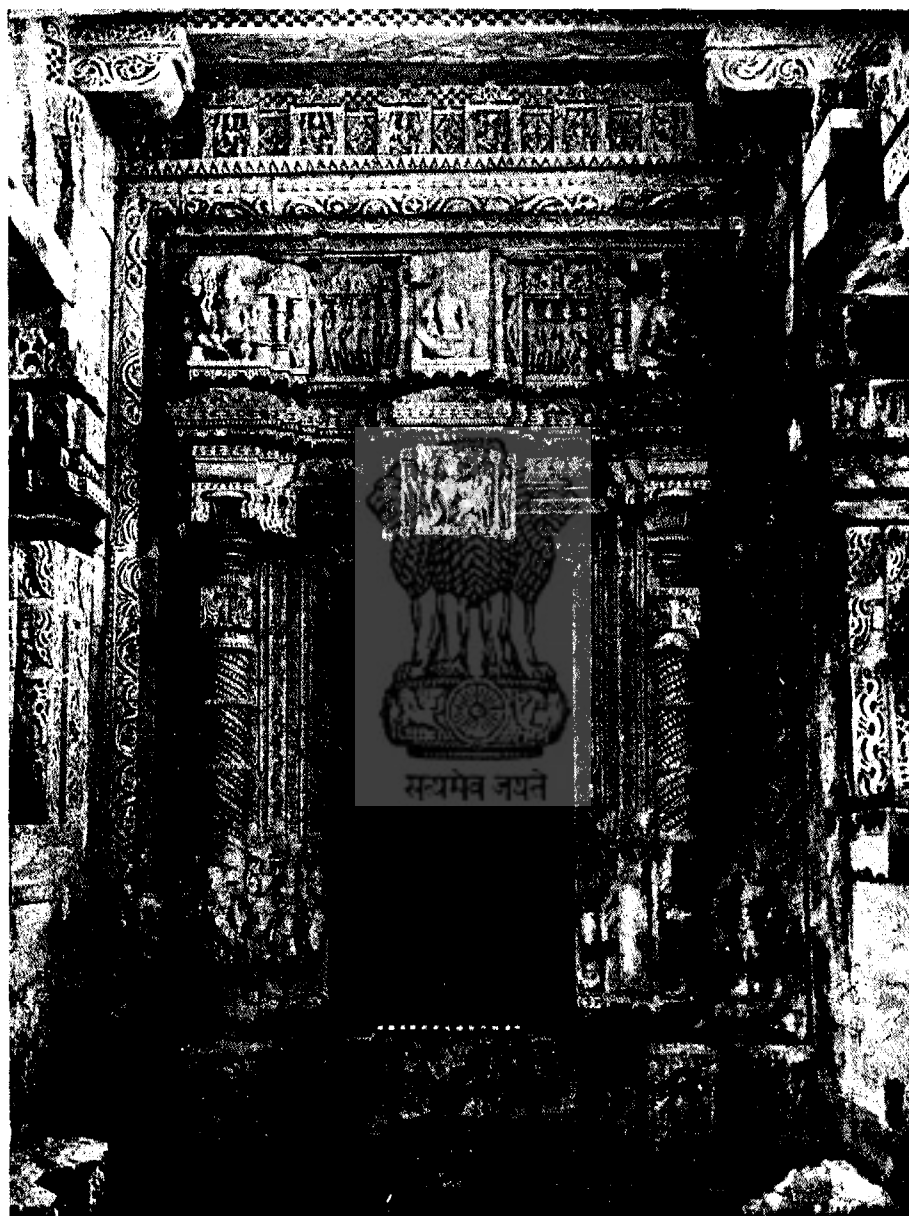






Man Mandir, Gwalior Fort





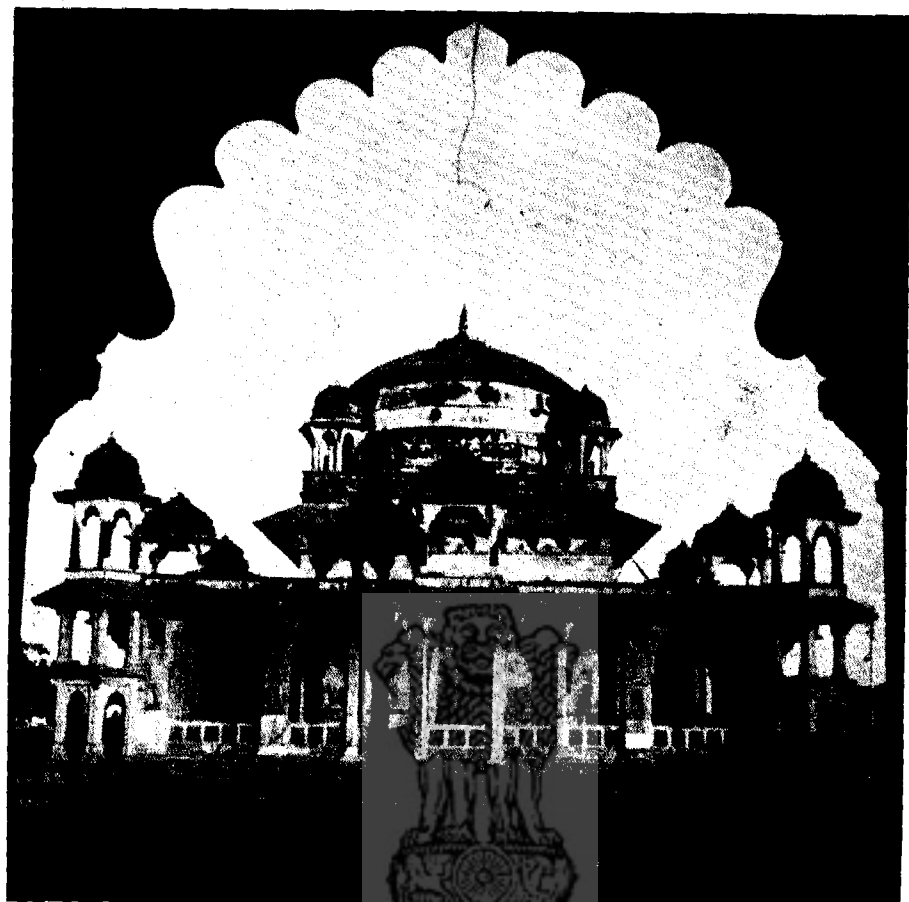
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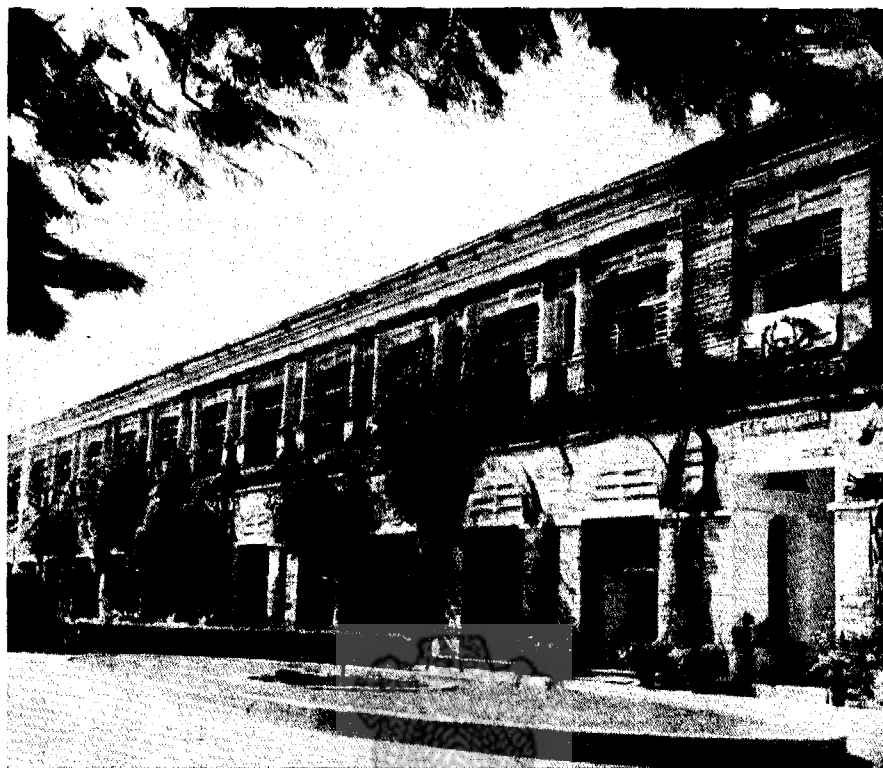


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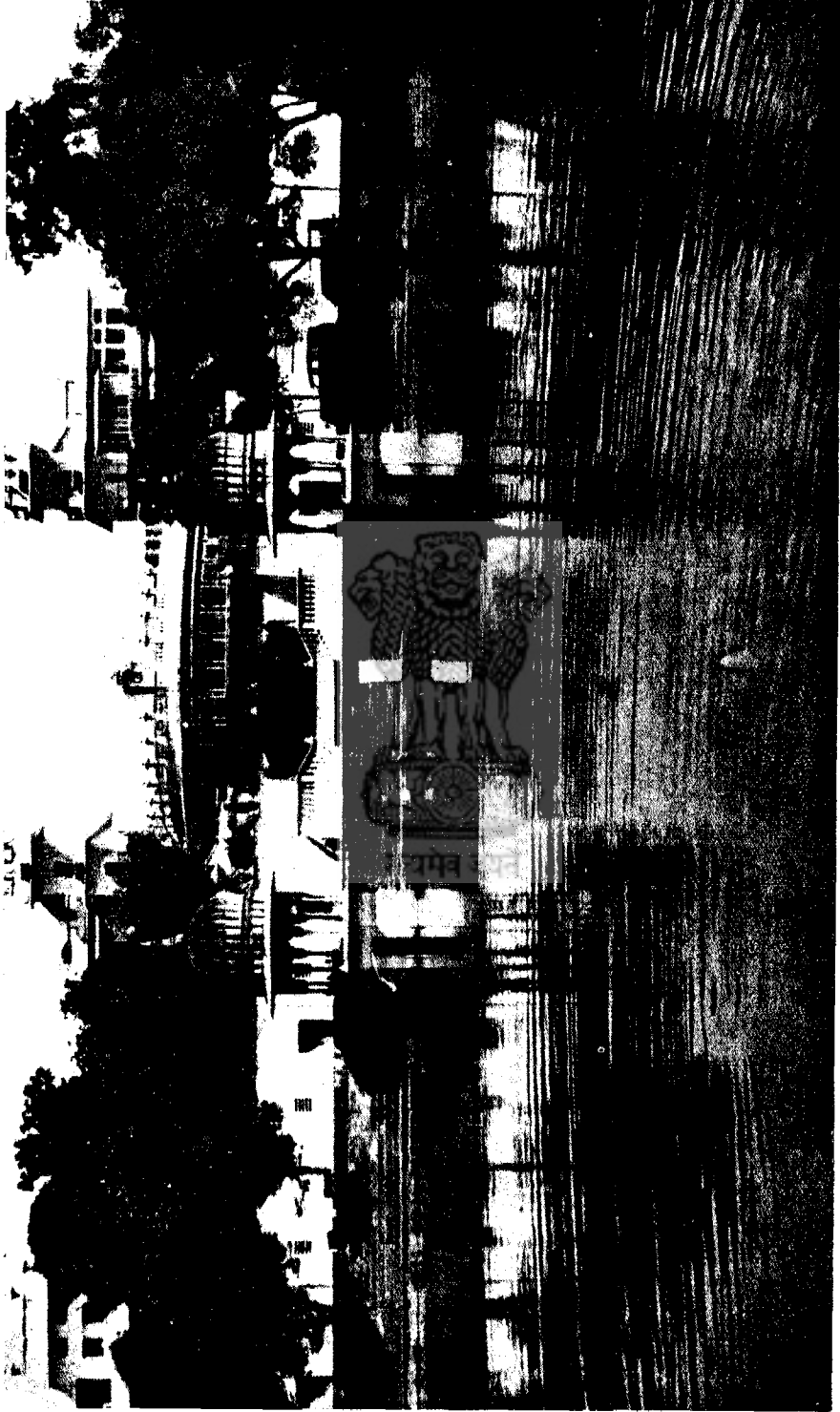


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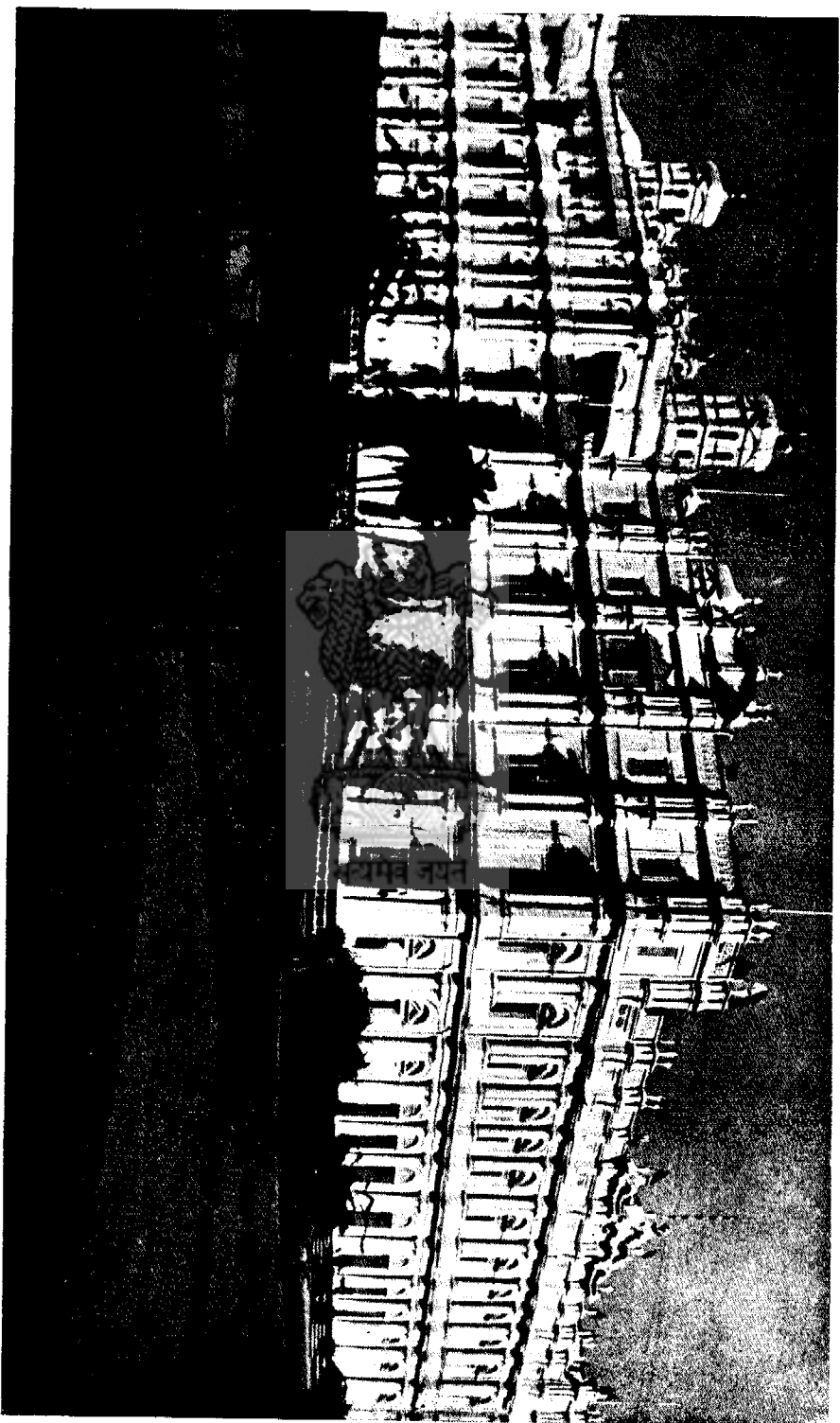
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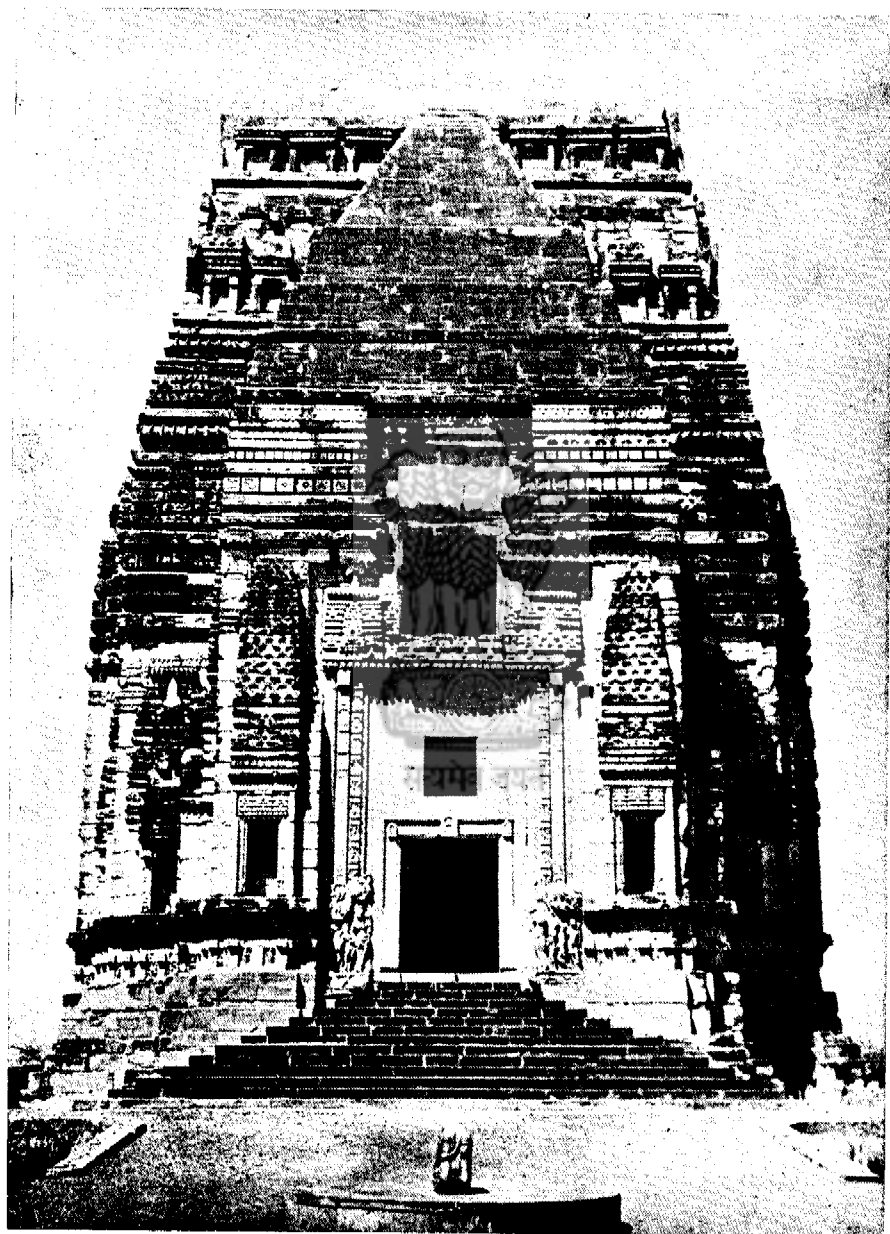
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Jai Vilas Palace





Teli-ka-Mandir

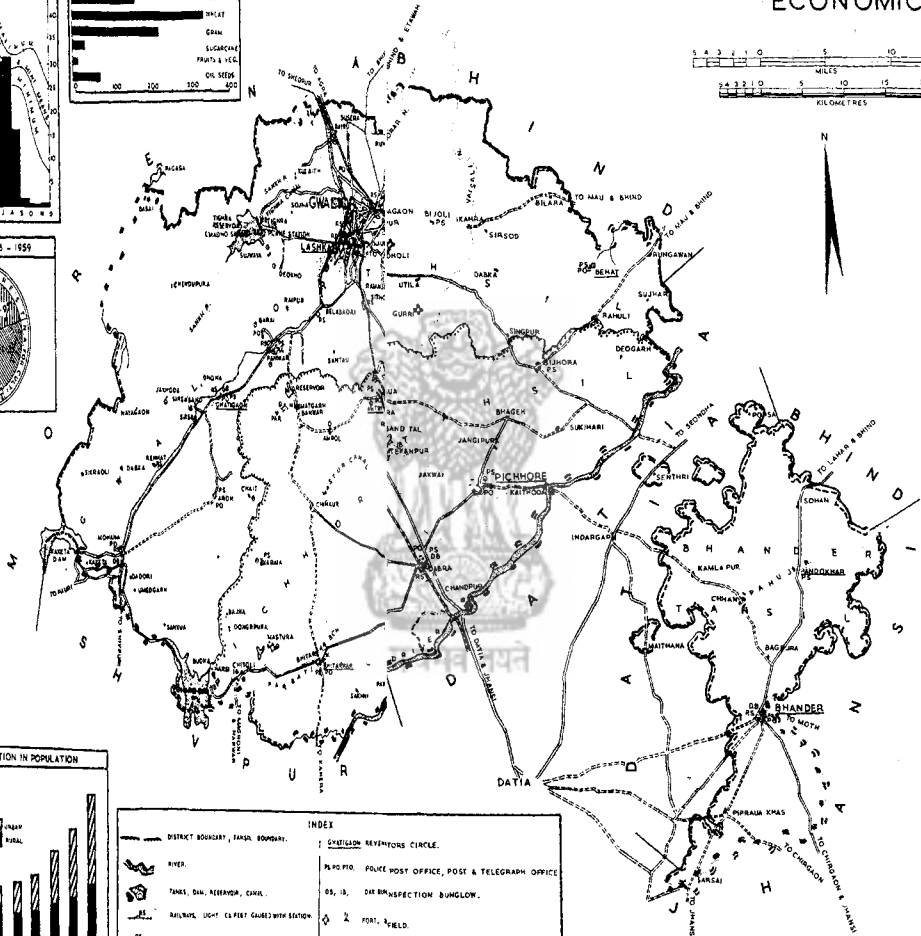
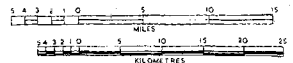
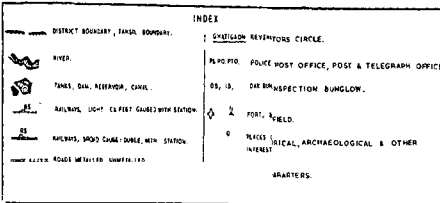
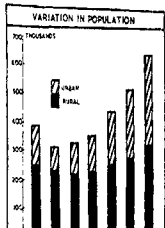
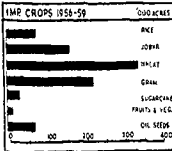
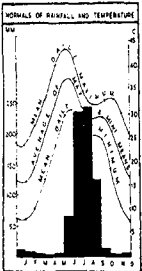




Pawaya—Stone Panel Depicting Dance and Music Scene



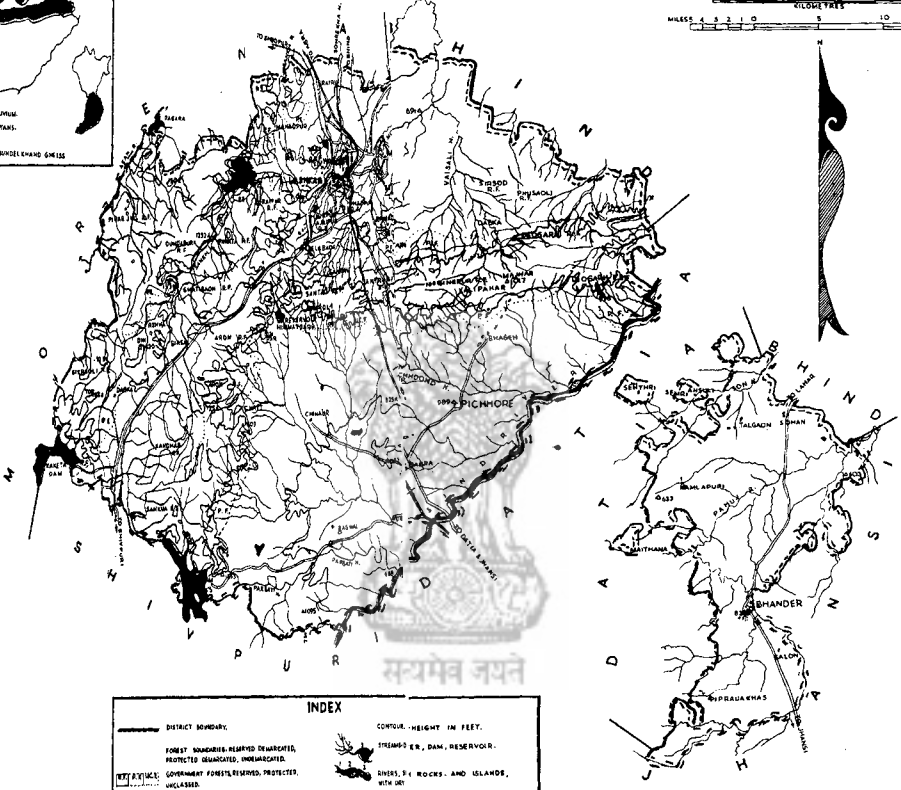
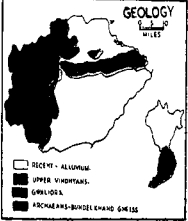
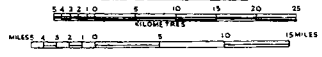
# GWALIOR DISTRICT ECONOMIC



UNDER THE DIRECTION OF PROF. S.M. ALI KHAN, UNIVERSITY OF BANGOR.  
PREPARED BY COMPIER, M.P. DUBAY EASTIST YANU BAY.



# GWALIOR DISTRICT GENERAL



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<p>DISTRICT BOUNDARY.</p> <p>FOREST BOUNDARIES, REAPED DEWATERED, PROTECTED BOUNDARIES, PROTECTED.</p> <p>GOVERNMENT FORESTS, REAPED, PROTECTED, UNCLASSIFIED.</p> <p>MINERALS - IRON ORE, CLAY, KANKAR.</p> <p>RAILWAYS - BROAD GAUGE, NARROW GAUGE.</p> <p>METALLED ROADS.</p> <p>VILLAGE.</p>	<p>CONTOUR - HEIGHT IN FEET.</p> <p>STREAMS, DAM, RESERVOIR.</p> <p>ISLANDS, ROCKS AND ISLANDS, WITH OR.</p> <p>TOWN, HTS.</p> <p>TEMPLE, 100 FEET.</p> <p>SPOT HTS.</p>